

Hafa Adai!

Chen bangs head on wall after being found guilty. **PAGE 2**

Torres administration utilizing all resources to solve cold cases. **PAGE 3**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 179

www.saipantribune.com

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

Security guard, woman arrested for attempted murder of cabbie

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A security guard and a woman were arrested on Tuesday for attempted murder and other charges for allegedly stabbing a taxi driver during a robbery on Saipan.

» **Taxi driver sustains 11 lacerations, plays dead to avoid further attack during robbery**

The taxi driver, a male, sustained 11 lacerations and avoided further attack by playing dead. He was taken to the Commonwealth Healthcare Center, police said.

Carlos Aldan Ramangmau, 26, and Felisha Ann Basa, 32, were arrested for attempted murder, aggravated assault and battery, robbery, and kidnapping.

According to acting chief prosecutor Barbara Cepeda, kidnapping

carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment, while the remaining charges carry a total maximum sentence of 50 years.

Cepeda said the defendants pose danger to the community and both have prior criminal cases. She said investigators also had a surveillance camera's footage on the defendants when the victim picked them up.

Ramangmau was served with an
See CABBIE on Page 4

16 of 25 buildings at NMC 'temporarily' repaired

» **Attao: Community college is 90 pct back to normal**

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College is on the road to recovery after 19 out of its 25 buildings were damaged by Typhoon Soudelor in August last year.

In a presentation at the Chamber of Commerce monthly meeting yesterday



ERWIN ENCINARES

Northern Marianas College interim president David Attao explains the situation of NMC after Typhoon Soudelor during the monthly membership meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held yesterday at Kanoa Resort.

at Kanoa Resort, NMC interim president David Attao said 16 of the 19 damaged buildings have already been patched up or temporarily repaired.

"Sixteen out of 19 buildings that were destroyed during Typhoon Soudelor are already usable," he told Chamber members and guests during his PowerPoint

See NMC on Page 4



ERWIN ENCINARES

Biz groups to present position in DC

By **JON PEREZ**
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The local business community will be presenting its collective position in an oversight hearing on House Resolution 5888 introduced by

Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan (Ind-CNMI) last Sept. 13 at the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, D.C.

The House Committee on Natural Resources, chaired by Rob Bishop (R-Utah 1st District), will

host the oversight hearing set at 11am (local time) at the Longworth House Office Building.

The hearing aims to review the economic impact of the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker nonimmig-

See BIZ on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Several members of the non-profit group Marianas Behavioral Health International Inc., is asking the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's help to fund the CNMI's first recovery center.

PAGE 6



BUSINESS

As Venezuela's economic crunch worsens, food shortages and rising poverty are forcing once middle-class Venezuelans to do the unthinkable: let their pets starve or abandon them in the streets.

PAGE 16



LIFE & STYLE

Greta Van Susteren has abruptly quit after 14 years as a prime-time anchor at Fox News Channel.

PAGE 21



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

WANTED

NEWS REPORTER

The *Saipan Tribune* is looking for a FULL-TIME news reporter.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Above average writing skills and can work within deadlines;
- Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player;
- Computer literate;
- With photography skills;
- Must have reliable means of transportation.

If you have what it takes to be part of a dynamic team, email your résumé and samples of your work to editor@saipantribune.com. You may also drop it off at the *Saipan Tribune* office on the second floor of the JP Center Building on Beach Road, Garapan. ON-ISLAND HIRES PREFERRED.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women, minorities, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

POWER PLANTS 1 AND 4 SAIPAN COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION PW 85, DR-4235-MP

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) intends to provide federal financial assistance under the Public Assistance program to the Saipan Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), through the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Emergency Management Agency to restore and protect facilities at the Power Plants 1 and 4 on Saipan (proposed action). Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) and FEMA's implementing regulations at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 9, FEMA hereby provides interested parties with a notice of its final decision and an explanation of the alternatives that were considered.

The proposed action would occur at two locations, one in the Village of Lower Base (Power Plant 1) and one in Puerto Rico (Power Plant 4), Saipan, CNMI. The project area is depicted on the CNMI Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Map Number 6900000032C, effective date April 3, 2006. The FIRM shows that the project area is in Zone AE, an area with a 1-percent probability of flooding every year and an established base flood elevation of 6 feet.

The purpose of the proposed action is to restore and protect the power plant facilities, Power plant 1 at Lower Base and Power plant 4 at Puerto Rico. With new systems station service power can be restored immediately to initiate the full power plant operation. These facilities were damaged by winds and rain associated with Typhoon Soudelor, which caused damage throughout CNMI between August 1 and 3, 2015. The proposed action would replace the damaged generators at both power plant facilities. In addition, CUC proposes to repair the typhoon damage to the structure, roof and wall panels of the power plant facilities, Power plant 1 & 2 and 4. A map of the project area and its location within the floodplain is available for public inspection. Any party interested in receiving a copy of the map should contact the FEMA Region IX Environmental Officer at the address or phone number below.

FEMA has determined that the proposed action is the only feasible alternative available to CUC. The proposed action would not adversely affect the floodplain and would benefit the public by restoring power supply to the community including critical facilities such as the main hospital. CUC believes the slab for the generator once completed will be at an elevation of 10 feet above sea level, at power plant 1. At power plant 4, this is not a concern as it is at least 30 feet above sea level. Further mitigation is not necessary. The proposed action conforms to local floodplain standards. CUC is responsible for implementing and monitoring the proposed action.

Additional information about FEMA's proposed action may be obtained by writing the FEMA Region IX Environmental Officer at FEMA, 1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland, California 94607 or fema-ehp-documents@fema.dhs.gov, or calling (510) 627-7027. All requests should be received no later than September 12, 2016. No action will be taken before this date.

Local

IN CASE OF 2ND BIGGEST ILLEGAL DRUGS HAUL IN CNMI

Chen bangs head on wall after being found guilty

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A federal jury yesterday rendered a unanimous guilty verdict against Zhaopeng Chen, who proceeded to shock the judge and other people in the courtroom when he cried and suddenly banged his head on the wooden wall next to his table.

Two U.S. Marshals Service officers immediately tackled the handcuffed but resisting Chen to the floor. Two other officers jumped in to assist the marshals.

Chen appeared unconscious as the marshals and officers dragged him out from the courtroom. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona witnessed the incident. The jurors were already out when the brief commotion happened.

A court staff read the verdict at 11:35am finding Chen guilty as to the charge of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

The offense carries a maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment.

Manglona set the sentencing for Dec. 14, 2016 at 9am.

After the court staff read the verdict, Chen was seen asking something to interpreter Betty Bai, who was seated beside him. Chen then nodded his head in disbelief, put his eyeglasses on the table, and started crying.

Manglona discharged the jurors and set the sentencing date. Chen stated something in

Fujian. Bai said she could not understand dialect.

Manglona advised Chen about his right to appeal.

As soon as Manglona adjourned the hearing and stood up, Chen uttered something in a loud voice, stood up, and banged the left side of his head on the wooden wall.

After Chen was tackled to the floor and taken out of the courtroom, defense counsel David G. Banes and assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe followed Manglona to a room.

Attorney Claire Kelleher-Smith, who assisted Banes throughout the trial, was observed being teary eyed.

In an interview, Banes said they're disappointed with the verdict and that they are going to appeal.

"There were some issues that we had about the jury instructions, about some laws that came in, some facts that came in," Banes said.

The defense counsel said the two main witnesses—Huang and Cai—testified that either Chen was not involved or he wasn't sure that Chen was involved, and the jury came back with a verdict of guilty.

"So that's...it's a little surprising," Banes said.

Banes said he actually expected a guilty verdict but for other reasons.

Asked why he expected a guilty verdict, Banes said he prefers not to answer that.

The 12 jurors began deliberating on Tuesday afternoon. They resumed deliberations

yesterday at 8am.

The trial began last Aug. 30. The prosecution called 12 witnesses, including Chen's co-defendant Shicheng Cai.

The defense called to the witness stand, the other co-defendant Xi Huang, who was tagged as the leader of the group behind the shipment from China of 4.9 lbs of methamphetamine or "ice."

The indictment charged Chen, Cai, and Huang, all Chinese nationals, with conspiracy with the intent to distribute methamphetamine.

Cai and Huang pleaded guilty. Cai has yet to be sentenced, while Huang was recently slapped with a sentence of 188 months imprisonment.

Customs inspectors discovered the contraband hidden in one of nine paint buckets during a routine inspection at the seaport of a shipping container from China on Dec. 2, 2015.

Local and federal enforcers replaced the "ice" with sugar and conducted a surveillance operation that led to the arrest of Huang, Cai, and Chen on Dec. 4, 2015, near Stanford Hotel in San Vicente.

The worth of the "ice" was estimated at \$850,000, making it the second largest illegal drugs haul in CNMI history.

The July 2015 arrest of Zhenlin Fang and Yuliu Liu and the seizure and detection of over 10,700 grams of "ice" worth about \$4.3 million was reportedly the biggest illegal drugs haul in the Commonwealth.

SHEFA ready to present position on HB 19-66

By **JON PEREZ**
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance is prepared to present its position on House Local Bill 19-66, introduced by Rep. Francis S. Taimanao (Ind-Saipan), which aims to amend a provision on Saipan Local Law 18-05.

SLL 18-05 mandates the poker industry to move to the Adult Gaming Zone's geographical location in October next year. Taxes and poker license fees are the primary source of SHEFA's funds that they give out in assisting Saipan students with their college education.

Taimanao filed HLB 19-66 because he wants to delay the move in the next three to four years to lessen the impact on SHEFA's funds.

SHEFA chair Oscar M. Ba-

bauta said they are waiting for the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation in asking for their comment on HLB 19-66. "We're going to wait for their solicitation for our comments.

"The minute we receive that we are going to present our position on this local bill that we have already prepared in advance," added Babauta.

Babauta said that the entire SHEFA board, this early, is thanking Taimanao for taking the lead to introduce HLB 19-66 and at the same time find ways of helping them in their funding source.

SNILD members Reps. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan), John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan), and Ramon Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) are supporting Taimanao's local bill.

Babauta said the SHEFA board is hoping the other

SNILD members would follow suite and also support HLB 19-66.

The SHEFA chair added that they are also hoping new Commonwealth Zoning Board member Joel Camacho, who was sworn in by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres last Saturday, would help them.

"We're hoping new Zoning board member Joel Camacho would realize the effect of this measure should it goes through the process with the local delegation," said Babauta.

"We also thank the governor for realizing the importance of the board as the CNMI's economy continues to improve."

Juan K. Tenorio (vice chair), Raymund Muna (secretary-treasurer), and Francisco D. Cabrera are the other SHEFA board members with Merissa S. Rasa as administrator.

Torres administration utilizing all resources to solve cold cases

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is using all available resources and is doing all it can in solving several high-profile cases that have gone cold in the last two years. Torres is personally concerned in the unsolved cases particularly those involving two pairs of missing sisters.

Siblings Faloma and Ma-leina Luhk, who were only 10 and 9 years old, were last seen on May 25, 2011 near a bus stop pavilion in As Teo, while Japanese sisters Natsuki and Chinatsu Yamada went missing in June 2014.

A fatal shooting of a security guard and a number of murder cases involving Chinese farmers are also among the cases that have yet to be solved.

Torres has instructed Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero to use their available resources and find ways to solve the cases.

The administration said they have talked to both the families of the Luhk and Yamada sisters and the DPS informed them that they are trying to get all of its resources in place to solve the said cases.

The governor said he wants to give all the families closure and resolution on the case of both missing Luhk

and Yamada sisters. The administration added that they want the investigation to continue and have the cases move forward as long as all four still remain missing.

Last May marked the fifth year that the Luhk sisters have been missing, while last June was the second year of the mysterious disappearance of the Yamada siblings.

The disappearance of the Luhk sisters became the most extensive island-wide search of missing persons in the CNMI's history with the FBI along with local law enforcers and civilian volunteers taking part.

Hideki and Kozue Yamada, Natsuki and Chinatsu's parents, have been coming back every two to three months to get an update on the case of their missing daughters. The couple even participated in this year's Saipan Marathon to keep the community aware of their situation.

Tomorrow also marks the first year of the disappearance of Chinese businessman Jian Zhu Deng, who went spear fishing in Marpi in September 2015.

A number of homicide cases also remain unsolved with 39-year-old James Patrick Deleon Guerrero being gunned down in what looked like an attempted robbery in a poker arcade in Afetnas. In November 2014, the bodies

of Chinese farmers Hai Ren Li and Cheng You Li were found dumped at the old airport runway in Koblerville.

Guo Huang Xu and his wife Qing Xiu Zheng, also farmers, died after their house was gutted by fire in what police classified as a double homicide case on Feb. 23, 2014, while another Chinese couple—Jun Li Yang and Jing Liu—were murdered execution style in their home in San Vicente in December 2012.

CEC sees good number of new voters

The Commonwealth Election Commission sees a good number of new voters in the CNMI.

CEC acting executive director Julita A. Villagomez said as of Tuesday, there were 624 new voters so far this year, and 340 in 2015.

Villagomez said these are good numbers for new voters considering that the Nov. 8

election is not gubernatorial.

Villagomez said many children have turned 18 and registered.

The deadline for registration is this Friday at 4:30pm.

There were 1,030 new voters in 2013, and 1,772 in 2014, according to CEC's records.

As of Tuesday, there were 17,710 registered voters in the CNMI. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

CONGRATULATIONS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A big congratulations go out to our Airman Isidro B. Sablan who graduated from Basic Military Training in San Antonio, TX last Sept. 2. We wish you luck and send blessings your way as you continue your next phase of training in Mississippi. We love and miss you so much! From your proud parents Franklin T. and Sandra B. Sablan and family

Glushko's Academy

NEW ENROLLMENT

Ballet classes for all ages and levels
From 3 years old to adult.

Please call 483-6271 or e-mail: GlushkosAcademy@yahoo.com



NEW LOCATION: Mount Carmel School, Room 103, 1st floor of Administration Building

Motion!

Student Plan

Samsung Galaxy S5

\$99

\$30

3GB

4G LTE DATA

+ unlimited talk & text

or get 5GB and up to 3 MONTHS FREE if you bring your own phone

Life In Motion

682-4ITE | ite.net

*Terms & conditions apply. Must present valid student I.D. See stores for details.



FIGHT CHILDHOOD OBESITY

ERWIN ENCINARES

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Lady Diann Torres, Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Richard Seman, and Department of Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman pose with other stakeholders and the CNMI U14 Boys National Football Team after Torres proclaimed September as Childhood Obesity Awareness Month last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

CABBIE

From Page 1

an arrest warrant on Tuesday at 9:45pm in Garapan, while Basa was served with an arrest warrant at 4:45pm in central Garapan.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho maintained the \$100,000 cash bail each for the defendants.

Preliminary hearing will be on Sept. 13 at 1:30pm. Arraignment will be on Sept. 26 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit was appointed as counsel for Ramangmau. A private counsel will be appointed for Basa.

Police Detective Myron O. Laniyo stated in his report that a police detective responded to CHC last Aug. 27 at 10:50pm after receiving a call from the Department of Public Safety Central about a stabbing and robbery case.

Laniyo said the detective saw the victim being attend-

ed by a doctor due to multiple lacerations on the face.

A physician assistant informed the detective that the victim sustained 11 lacerations, all about an inch or less in length, caused by a sharp object.

The injuries were one on the right thumb, two on the right index finger, four on the right facial area and scalp, two on the right earlobe, one behind right ear, and one behind right thumb.

In an interview with another police detective, the victim stated that he was in San Jose when the leader of their taxi group holding the hotline number dispatched him to Toha Market in San Antonio to pick up a female customer.

When the victim got to Toha Market, a man and a woman entered his taxi and told him to drive to Dandan.

The victim said upon reaching Jin Ling Store in Dandan, he was told to head north, then to other areas until he was directed to stop at an intersection.

The woman, who was later identified as Basa and seated on the front passenger seat, handed money to the cabbie for payment of the ride.

The cabbie turned on the interior lights of the car to check the money. The man, who was later identified as Ramangmau who was seated behind Basa, suddenly poked the victim with a sharp object on the neck.

Basa allegedly grabbed the victim's cellphone. Ramangmau then grabbed the victim's head and continuously poked him on the right side of the face with the sharp object.

Ramangmau continued the stabbing and only stopped when the victim played dead. Basa got down and opened the driver's door and unbuckled the victim's seatbelt.

Basa grabbed the victim's legs and pushed them to the passenger seat. Ramangmau pulled half the victim's body to the center console.

Basa then drove the vehicle and stopped after a couple of minutes. The two suspects

then searched around inside the taxi and left.

The victim drove the vehicle toward a friend's house in Susupe, where he asked for help. He was then taken to CHC.

The victim said the suspects stole \$300 cash and his cellphone worth \$500.

Laniyo said operatives from DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau recovered from a store's surveillance camera's footage that caught Ramangmau and Basa walking to Toha Market on the night of Aug. 27 coming from the southern side.

Operatives observed as Basa got into Toha Market and used the telephone at the same time that the victim was dispatched to that store to pick up customers.

Ramangmau was observed waiting outside in the parking lot of the store. Laniyo said the victim positively identified Ramangmau and Basa on the photo lineup as the persons that he picked up and attacked him.

BIZ

From Page 1

grant visa program, which is set to end in 2019. Extending the program up to 2029 and increasing the cap to 18,000 contract workers from the current 12,999 limit are among the provisions included on H.R. 5888.

Members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, Society for Human Resources Management-NMI Chapter, and the Saipan Small Business Development Center were invited to testify in presenting a unified front. Chamber secretary Alex Sablan will also testify in the oversight committee hearing.

Speaking at yesterday's general membership meeting at the Seaside Hall of the Kanoa Resort, Chamber president Velma Palacios said the CW-1 issue is important to the CNMI especially since the transition period is supposed to end in 2019.

"We are hoping to grab this opportunity to present our case. We as businesses continue to work in finding ways on how we can bring local residents and U.S. citizens in the workforce," said Palacios.

She added that converting eligible workers to other visa categories is another way to solve the crisis. However, application to other visa categories—like the EB or H visas—take years to be processed.

"We have instituted training programs and created partnerships to address our human resource requirements. But we still need the CW program, we don't have enough workers in the CNMI to support the development," said Palacios.

"We have guidance and an

avenue to maintain those who would be eligible to support our business operations. We need a sustainable workforce to support our growing economy. The continued economic growth of our islands, we need a workforce to support and sustain its growth."

Palacios has also encouraged all businesses to start transition their existing workers to other visa categories. "Please continue your efforts to use the CW program for job categories not eligible for H1s, H2s, or other visa categories. I applaud you all for your efforts to recruit and train local residents."

The CNMI economy is coming back to life and has gradually improved compared to five years ago. Economic activity, especially on Saipan, can be seen with the construction of several hotels and new businesses opening up.

"We are grateful for Congressman [Sablan] and Gov. [Ralph DLG] Torres in their efforts to work with the federal government to address the issue," said Palacios.

She said that's why the local business community should help Sablan's bill. "If you have any data that we can share with the office prior to the hearing on what you've done as a business to help this CW crisis, give it to us."

"Any information or data would help be cause that is what the [federal government] is looking for. Any data from us that could support our cause."

Last week, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security reduced the numerical limit by one for fiscal year 2017 while the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services released a deferred action for eligible CW-1 workers.

NMC

From Page 1

presentation.

Attao said NMC is putting efforts into constructing a more secure campus as soon as possible for the welfare of the students who are currently enrolled in the college, even if it is only temporary.

"What we're trying to do now is make temporary buildings and rooms and make sure they can be habitable so our students can have places

to study and actually eat and have a comfortable learning environment that is conducive for them to excel," he said.

Attao also stated that not included on the 16 buildings that are already usable are the gym and other places at the NMC campus.

"We still have the gym and some other areas that need to be replaced though. We can now have classes on these 16, but it's only temporary," he said, adding that repairs to the gym will be costly.

He said the NMC Board

of Regents is planning to add new facilities to the campus along with the restoration of the destroyed buildings.

"Our board has directed us to try to build new facilities and move in that direction. We're getting there. We're trying to build up the funds and trying to get the plan up together for execution," said Attao.

Attao claims that classes at NMC are almost back to normal and that NMC appreciates the patience that students and faculty members

have toward the rebuilding of the campus.

"Classes are 90 percent back to normal. Again, we appreciate our students, faculty, and our staff for their patience during the whole process. We're trying our best to make it safe and conducive for the students."

The NMC campus in As Terlaje actually is the site of the old Saipan hospital. NMC hopes to build a campus for the islands' only community college from the ground up.

'Grandpa Ping' gets similar 60-year prison term

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Jose Ilo Santos, a 66-year-old man also known as Grandpa Ping, was slapped yesterday with a maximum 60-year prison term sentence for sexually assaulting a then-7-year-old girl at his house in Tanapag.

After the sentencing hearing and while a Department of Corrections officer was escorting him out from the courtroom, Santos looked at Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho and said a vulgar word in Chamorro twice.

Upon hearing the vulgar word, Camacho recalled Santos and informed him that he may be held in contempt for what he did.

Camacho sentenced Santos to 30 years imprisonment each for two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

Camacho said the sentences shall be served consecutively.

It means that Santos shall serve a total of 60 years in prison, to be served day to day, without the possibility of parole, probation, or early release or weekend release.

Santos was given credit for time served. He was required

to register as a sex offender.

Camacho said with the maximum sentence imposed, Santos will never hurt anyone for the next 60 years.

"It is the hope of this court that perhaps for that 7-year-old victim and her family, the healing can begin," the judge said.

In July 2015, the jury reached a unanimous verdict finding Santos guilty of all two charges for sexually assaulting the girl at his house in Tanapag in 2011.

It was actually a second retrial. At the first trial held in October 2012, the jury found Santos guilty of the same charges.

In March 2013, Camacho sentenced the defendant to the maximum of 60 years in prison, to be served without the possibility of parole.

Santos appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court.

In December 2014, the high court then ruled that the trial court abused its discretion by permitting the victim advocate to accompany the girl at the witness stand. The high court reversed the convictions and ordered a new trial.

A retrial was held in March 2015. But Camacho declared a mistrial after the jury was

left with only five members.

The second retrial was then held in July 2015.

At yesterday's sentencing, the government, through counsel assistant attorney general Shannon Foley and acting chief prosecutor Barbara Cepeda, recommended a sentence of 60 years imprisonment.

Defendant's counsel assistant public defender Michael Sato recommended a sentence of 24 years and eligible for parole after serving eight years.

Before the judge handed down the sentence, Santos was given an opportunity to address the court not under oath so he could speak freely. The defendant elected not to address the court.

Camacho said using his position as a trusted elderly family member, Santos lured the girl into his apartment and sexually abused her.

Camacho said Santos sexually abused the victim twice during a two-month period.

The judge said medical personnel were still able to observe the physical trauma on the victim over a week after the last sexual abuse.

Camacho said defendant's former wife alleged that Santos would frequently beat her

up whenever he gets drunk.

The former wife refers Santos as "evil."

Camacho said when a judge imposes a maximum sentence, it's not because he or she is cold-hearted.

Camacho said when a judge imposes a maximum sentence, he or she weighs many things: a love for the law, the victim's need for justice, and for criminals to be punished appropriately.

The judge said the 60-year

sentence is appropriate as it will be deterrence and it touches upon the other goals of sentencing: retribution and incapacitation.

Camacho said it will be specific deterrence as Santos will learn from his crime and not commit other similar crimes.

He said it will be a general deterrence as it will set an example to others not to commit similar crimes.

With respect to retribu-

tion, Camacho said it reaffirms to the members of the CNMI community that child predators who sexually abuse young children will be severely punished.

On incapacitation, the judge said Santos' actions require that he be removed to safeguard the community.

"There can be no justice without the appropriate sentence because the people of the CNMI deserve a safe community," he added.



Go from small business to smart business.



Save money on banking services.



FREE BUSINESS CHECKING¹

- No monthly service charge
- No minimum balance requirement
- 25 free transactions per month (includes checks written, deposit tickets submitted or checks deposited)

Open a new free business checking account by 10/31/16 and also receive:

- \$20 off your first business-style check order¹
- Free FHB Business Online (Online Banking) for 6 months²

LEARN MORE. Visit FHB.com or stop by any branch.



First Hawaiian Bank.

IT ALL STARTS WITH YES

Gualo Rai Branch, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090 Fax (670) 235-3094
Oleai Branch, Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan Laulau • Tel: (670) 234-6559 Fax: (670) 236-8936

Member FDIC

- 1 The minimum deposit to open an account and obtain the \$20 discount on your first business-style check order is \$100. No minimum balance required to avoid a monthly service charge. Accounts with a zero balance for 30 consecutive days will be closed automatically. You will receive the \$20 discount when you mention this offer at any First Hawaiian Bank branch, open a new (not converted) Free Business Checking account and place your first business-style check order. This offer cannot be combined with any other promotional offer. Limit of one \$20 business-style check order discount per customer or account. We reserve the right to substitute an item of similar value. Offer expires on 10/31/16 or when supplies are exhausted. Account allows for 25 free items (for each check written, deposit ticket processed, or check deposited) per statement period. Excess item fee of \$0.50 per item over 25. Miscellaneous fees and service charges do apply.
- 2 Offer applies to new FHB Business Online customers who enroll by 10/31/16. Offer does not apply to Online Payment service or access through Quicken® or QuickBooks®. After six (6) months, standard FHB Business Online fees apply. See Terms and Conditions of FHB Online Services for more information. You must have a mobile device with Internet to use FHB Mobile Banking. Device must have a rear-facing camera with autofocus to use Mobile Deposit. See FAQs in the "Mobile Deposit" section of fhb.com/mobile.


FOR SALE

2013 TOYOTA TACOMA




- ACCESS CAB
- MANUAL TRANS
- 4 CYLINDER A/C, CD
- COLOR: TAN
- VERY GOOD CONDITION
- NEW PADS, NEW SERVICE
- MILEAGE: 58K
- ASKING PRICE: \$18,225 OR BEST OFFER

Contact # 989-2869 or 898-3367



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-16-023

ISLAND WIDE ROAD RESTORATION FOR WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation, placing of flowable fill and asphalt to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to repair waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and the Department of Public Works. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **September 22, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 12, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bids shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders.

The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **September 26, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Robert Malate, CUC Water & Wastewater Engineer, via email-robert.malate@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S Administrative Support Assistant, via email- marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.


CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO

Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN

Purchasing Officer



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM and PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS

Provision of Architect and Engineering Services for the 702 Capital Improvement Program and the Public Assistance Office RFQ16-GOV-164

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and the Public Assistance Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth"), are soliciting sealed proposals from Architects and Engineers to provide Project Management Services for designated federally funded projects through: 1) Capital Improvement Program, funded by the Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs and 2) Public Assistance Office, funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Firms may submit proposals for either the Capital Improvement Program only or Public Assistance Office only or for both.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor, and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Selected Architects and Engineers (Project Managers) will be retained as independent contractors under general provision of the Contracting Officer or his/her designee. Project Managers will act as agents of the expenditure authority on assigned Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects and/or the Public Assistance Office projects to ensure that identified objectives are achieved within cost, time and legal requirements while maintaining effective stakeholder communications. Selected Project Managers will be retained of a one year contract with an option to renew for an additional year at the discretion of the Commonwealth. Project Managers include Architects, Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical Engineers.

Compensation for Project Management services will be determined based on the number of assigned projects including payments for approved staff and expenses. The Commonwealth will negotiate with the selected Project Managers to determine the scope of work and responsibilities. Individuals or firms selected as Project Managers would be precluded from providing any other services associated with the assigned project(s).

To qualify, firms must have a valid CNMI Business License, be currently licensed to practice engineering in the CNMI, and must hold a Certificate of Authorization, if applicable.

Statements of qualifications must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330, or the latest version of Standard Forms. Only professionally licensed firms with a valid CNMI business license will be considered. Statement of Qualifications will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1.	Qualification of Firm and/or Personnel	40%
2.	Experience in Project Management	40%
3.	Work Load	20%
4.	Fee Estimate on a Per Hourly Rate	0%

Fee estimates will assist the CIP Office and the Public Assistance Office with budgeting purposes only. Fee estimates will not be a part of the evaluation criteria.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms or with all the firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked **"RFQ16-GOV-164", Project Management Services for the 702 CIP Projects and/or Project Management Services for the Public Assistance Office**. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the qualifications statement must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on Monday, September 26, 2016. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST), on Monday, September 26, 2016, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed qualifications statement must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than Monday, September 26, 2016, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on Wednesday, October 5, 2016. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal. A pre-proposal meeting will be held at Governor's Conference Room, located at the Juan A. Sablan building in Capitol Hill, at 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on Tuesday, September 13, 2016.

Questions regarding this RFQ16-GOV-164 may be submitted in writing to Ms. Sheila Babauta at sheilababauta.cip@gmail.com or faxed to 664-2408 no later than Monday, September 19, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. (ChST).

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

Ralph DLG. Torres

Governor, CNMI

Herman S. Sablan

Director, Procurement & Supply

Nonprofit group asks SNILD's help for recovery center



JON PEREZ

Nonprofit group Marianas Behavioral Health International Inc. volunteer Joey Arriola speaks during the public comments portion of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's session last Friday at House Chamber of the Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building on Capitol Hill.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Several members of the nonprofit group Marianas Behavioral Health International Inc., including its managing director Diego Manglona Sablan, asked the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's help to fund the CNMI's first recovery center.

MBHI plans to provide counseling and other ways for individuals who have drug, alcohol, and gambling addictions to recover from their vices.

Marianas Drug Testing & Diagnostics Services president Crispin M. Sablan, MBHI board member Agnes McPhetres, and volunteer Joey Arriola joined Diego Sablan in addressing SNILD members during their session last Friday at the House chamber at the Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building on Capitol Hill.

Diego Sablan said the first recovery center would serve all individuals who have addiction problems in the CNMI with "ice" also reaching the neighboring island of Tinian. Their group also held a youth outreach program on Rota where they talked about the issues of drugs and alcohol addictions.

Sablan said that he and his brother Crispin have been personally funding the program, but is now asking the SNILD's help in battling the "ice" epidemic, which has become the CNMI's No. 1 issue.

"There are a lot of questions about our group but we collected the best people available here in the CNMI and Guam to help us in treating people who have alcohol

and drug problems. We have one individual who worked as assistant to the director in Lighthouse [Recovery Center] in Guam. So we are not going in this project blindly," Sablan said.

"The drug epidemic is the No. 1 issue right now aside from alcohol and it has been a tragedy for all of us. We have been diligent in using resources to take care of the welfare of the people. We need all your help," said Sablan, who added that the war on "ice" is also their campaign.

Their group is also working closely with the CNMI Drug Court, which was established last July, and the Commonwealth Guidance Center since recovery and a rehabilitation facility is a major component of solving the drug problem.

Crispin Sablan, who came back on Saipan in 1988, added that a lot of members in the CNMI community are suffering from "ice" addiction and they have the opportunity to help them recover. "I do have the capacity and background for the job. Our prison is already full."

"We need our people to get well and become productive members of the community. They don't belong in jail, they are sick, and I've seen a lot of it. The most important things is to help them, so they won't return to the vice and their old ways," Sablan added.

McPhetres said that the facility had been completed and they have volunteers who are ready to start providing services in the recovery of individuals addicted to "ice" and other vices. "The nonprofit group has been established to help people who

needed assistance in terms of curing them from their vices like drugs or gambling."

"The [SNILD] discussed in appropriating funds to help our group start providing services to our society. This shows the commitment of this body to do the right thing. All it needs is a startup fund to help promote the program," said McPhetres.

She added their private organization would work hard to make sure public funds that they would receive will be used in treating individuals with addiction.

Arriola, one of the first volunteers that had been part of the group since 2013, said the program is very close to his heart as he is very active in the issue of recovery. "There are other priorities, but we ask for your help since [drugs] is a problem that we have in the CNMI."

"There was no treatment center for drugs and alcohol on the island. Creating the Drug Court is a historical achievement but it will not work since we need a treatment center. It is imperative that our organization be ready to work with the Drug Court and the public," said Arriola.

He is hoping that the community would give them a chance. "We're making history since this is the first time to have an organization and treatment center. We have nothing to prove yet and we have no data to present but we're asking you to give us a chance."

"I understand we are still new but we are hoping you would continue to support us. Whatever your concerns are, we are happy to sit with you and address them," said Arriola.


TOYOTA

THE REAL DEAL!


SAIPAN IS TACOMA TERRITORY
GET THE REAL DEAL

Tacomas as low as

\$171* Per Paycheck

 Integrated GoPro Mount
 Available Crawl Control*
 Backup Camera
 Never Rust Composite Bed

**BEWARE OF CHEAPER IMITATIONS.
 BUY FROM A DEALERSHIP YOU CAN TRUST.
 GET THE REAL DEAL
 AT AK TODAY!**

SEE YOUR

AK APPROVAL EXPERT
**NOBODY
 DOES FINANCING
 LIKE WE DO!**
NOW OPEN SATURDAYS from 8am to 5pm.
*On approved credit. Conditions apply. See dealer for details. Fees not included. Toyota Tacoma SP \$28,999. Total deferred \$ \$33,997.03. Monthly payment \$ \$371.79. 25% down payment. 6.75% APR at 72 months term financing. Per paycheck based on 24 pay periods per year. Vehicles not exactly as shown. Some features available only on certain vehicles.

With Toyota you get the **REAL DEAL!** Expect nothing less than quality, excellence, and great customer service with Toyota and Atkins Kroll. Why pay more any place else? The **REAL DEAL** is right here at **AK!**

**POWERED BY
 THE INDUSTRY'S
 FINEST**

Since 1967 Atkins Kroll:

Helped over 22,000 car owners find the right car or truck.

Has sold the most vehicles in Saipan.

Has 28 service and body shop bays to keep your car in tip-top shape.

Has the most experienced service and body technicians to keep you on the road.

Has the largest parts stock and warehouse than any dealer on island.



Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc.
 #1 Chalan Msr Guerrero San Jose
 Saipan, MP 96950

Call 234-5911

Showroom Hours: Monday to
 Saturday 8am to 5 pm

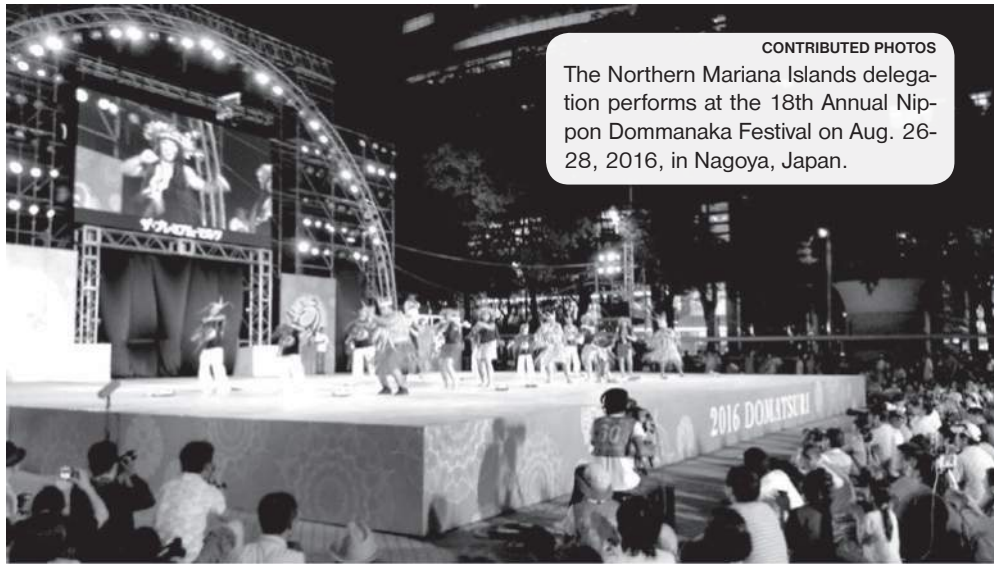


**Let's
 Go
 Places**

HERE FOR SAIPAN. HERE FOR LIFE.

Browse our online showroom - Visit: www.AKsaipan.com

CNMI joins 18th Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
The Northern Mariana Islands delegation performs at the 18th Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival on Aug. 26-28, 2016, in Nagoya, Japan.

Through the Marianas Visitors Authority and Pacific Development Inc., the Northern Mariana Islands sent a delegation to the 18th Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival held on Aug. 26-28, 2016, in Nagoya, Japan.

The NMI delegation of indigenous Carolinian dancers were among 23,000 dancers that entertained over a million

festival-goers.

On the first day, the delegation attended a welcoming reception hosted by the mayor of Nagoya before making their first two performances. The following day, the group performed on various stages throughout the city and walked in the festival parade. That evening, delegation leader and PDI vice president Gor-

don Marciano was a judge in the preliminaries of the competition, featuring 12 groups. Activities continued on Sunday, the final day. During the festival, Saipan-da backpacks were also distributed to the audience. The MVA's office in Japan helped coordinate the NMI's participation.

"One of the most fun parts of the trip was seeing the



The Northern Mariana Islands delegation meets the chairman of the 18th Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival on Aug. 26, 2016, in Nagoya, Japan.



2016 Liberation Day Queen Christine Roque and special assistant to the Mayor of Saipan Henry Hofschneider join the 18th Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival parade on Aug. 27, 2016, in Nagoya, Japan.

dancers who have never experienced Japan. Their faces just lit up with amazement as they were surrounded by 23,000 other performers. They were welcomed by the people of Nagoya, commemorative booklets featured the Northern Marianas team, and the festival was featured on live nationwide television," said Marciano. "It always amazes us that the NMI is one of the crowd favorites."

This year performers were selected from several dance

troupes, including Pacific Flowers, the FESTPAC delegation, Saipan Southern Warriors, Tanapag Warriors and Refaluwasch Warriors. In addition, 2016 Liberation Day Queen Christine Roque performed with the group.

MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion also attended the event.

"We are very proud of the performers who showcased our cultural dances in Nagoya in front of hundreds of thousands of people," said Concepcion. "The MVA works tirelessly to attract more visitors from Japan, and our presence in Nagoya provided much needed exposure for our Commonwealth. We hope to see an incremental increase in arrivals from Japan in the very near future as we work closely with our travel partners to revive this incredibly important market."

According to Marciano, this is the 13th year the Northern Mariana Islands has been invited to the Nippon Dommanaka Festival. (PR)



Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, in blue, joins the Northern Mariana Islands delegation at the 18th Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival on Aug. 26-28, 2016, in Nagoya, Japan.



The Northern Mariana Islands delegation, including its youngest performer Leonardo Soares, front center, performs at the 18th Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival on Aug. 26-28, 2016, in Nagoya, Japan.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

September 8, 2000

3 contracts arising from Outer Cove lease questioned

The Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs aimed its sight yesterday into the Outer Cove Marina lease following findings of several other contracts that have sprung outside the main agreement. During the resumption of the oversight hearing, committee members raised concern such contracts may have violated the terms of the lease agreement that was approved by the 9th Legislature. The deal gave a 15-year lease to Marine Revitalization Corp. to build and operate the marina and was forged with the Department of Lands and Natural Resources and the U.S. National Parks Service during the previous administration.

Pregnancy bill faces overhaul

Changes will be made to legislation freeing employers from paying full medical costs of their pregnant nonresident workers, according to its author Rep. Dino M. Jones who claimed it has drawn wide support in the community. He said the amendments would tie the proposal to child support laws placing the burden to the father as well as to labor regulations permitting transfer of employees to another employer. The House Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations is expected to conduct public hearings on the three islands to gather inputs from members of the community as well as government agencies, the representa-

tive said. Following criticisms from Bishop Tomas A. Camacho against the measure, Mr. Jones clarified that it is not his intention to discriminate against pregnant women, especially guest workers who are its target.

September 8, 2004

Navy assesses future use for Tinian

A team of military engineers from the U.S. Navy visited the Commonwealth yesterday to discuss possible future plans that the military has for the islands, particularly Tinian. Capt. David Boone, the Navy's officer-in-charge for construction in the Marianas, and his team met with Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente to brief the local executive of the use assessment the Navy is currently conducting for the military-leased land on Tinian. The military leases some 17,799 acres of public land on Tinian, which comprises approximately two-thirds of the island's land mass. Approximately 6,458 acres of this landmass have been leased back by the CNMI government.

MPLA defers action on JG Sablan mining permit

The Marianas Public Lands Authority has again deferred action on the request of J.G. Sablan Rock Quarry Inc. for continuation of its mining permit on Pagan. In a meeting yesterday, the MPLA board of directors instructed the staff instead to arrange a meeting with J.G. Sablan officials within the next few days. The result of the discussion is expected to guide the agency in deciding whether or

The board will reconvene for another special meeting and come up with a decision on J.G. Sablan's request on Sept. 17. On Aug. 1, 1993, MPLA granted a permit to Saipan-based J.G. Sablan to mine basalt and pozzolan from Pagan. Two years after, J.G. Sablan was given a new 20-year permit despite its failure to generate and report any revenue to the government from its

activities on the island.

September 8, 2005

Manglona calls for emergency session to pass a new budget

Senate majority leader Paul A. Manglona pushed yesterday for an emergency joint session of both houses of the Legislature to pass a new budget on or before Sept. 30. He said he hopes a budget can be passed by Sept. 15. "We have only three weeks remaining to do it. It would be good if we can hold a joint session and have it by Sept. 15," said the senator in an interview yesterday. Gov. Juan N. Babauta said during yesterday's press conference that he has renewed his call to the Legislature to pass a new budget immediately but he has not made a specific call for an emergency joint session. Yesterday's press conference at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe was attended by government officials, including Senate President Joaquin G. Adriano and Manglona. When asked, Adriano said he would favor the holding of a joint session but he said this cannot be done as yet because the House has not even come up with a final budget bill. The government currently operates on a \$213-million funding level.

Nabi recovery seen to top \$1M

The preliminary damage assessment on the damage caused by Typhoon Nabi in the CNMI ended Wednesday, with recovery efforts expected to exceed \$1 million, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. A joint team composed of FEMA representatives and local officials found that five homes received light damage, 10 with minor damage, six with major damage, and nine that were completely destroyed. Damage must exceed the \$1-million mark for the local government to request federal assistance. Assessment reports from government agencies reveal that the initial estimate reached \$1.6 million, but FEMA must verify these amounts. Their final report will be issued next week.

'Field of Heroes' commemoration also kicks off on Tinian

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tinian also commemorated the 15th anniversary of 9/11 with its own kickoff event for the "We Will Never Forget:

Guam residents weigh political status options

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Guam government officials and community members are engaging in discussions about the island's political status referendum.

The Commission on Decolonization held its first community meeting in Hagatna on Monday. The group plans to conduct more than 100 meetings throughout the rest of the year to bring awareness to its decolonization efforts, *The Pacific Daily News* reported.

Several government officials and island leaders, including Guam Delegate Madeleine Bordallo and Democratic Sen. Rory Respicio, attended the inaugural event. Both are running for re-election.

Respicio said the goal of the meeting was to educate people about Guam's three political status options regarding its relationship with the U.S.: independence, statehood or free association.

Gov. Eddie Calvo announced plans earlier this year to hold the referendum in November with the general election. But that proposal has been put on hold by litigation challenging the vote in federal court.

Guam resident Arnold Davis, who is neither legally nor ethnically Chamorro, has challenged the government's proposed election because he doesn't meet the legal definition of native inhabitant.

Davis and his attorney argue that the local law limiting the vote to only Chamorro citizens is discriminatory.

The Commission on Decolonization and the Independence for Guahan Task Force, which also attended the Monday meeting, have been working to educate people on what the political status options could mean for Guam.

Melvin Won Pat Borja, a member of the task force, said there needs to be a focus on reaching out to Guam's youth who are going to be most impacted by the decolonization vote. He said the vote shouldn't take place until at least the 2020 general election to give young people more time to get caught up on the matter.

The decolonization commission's next community conversation is planned for Monday in Agat.

Field of Heroes" last Tuesday at the island's Fiesta Grounds.

The ceremony began with the posting of colors by the Tinian Junior Senior High School JROTC Stallion Battalion.

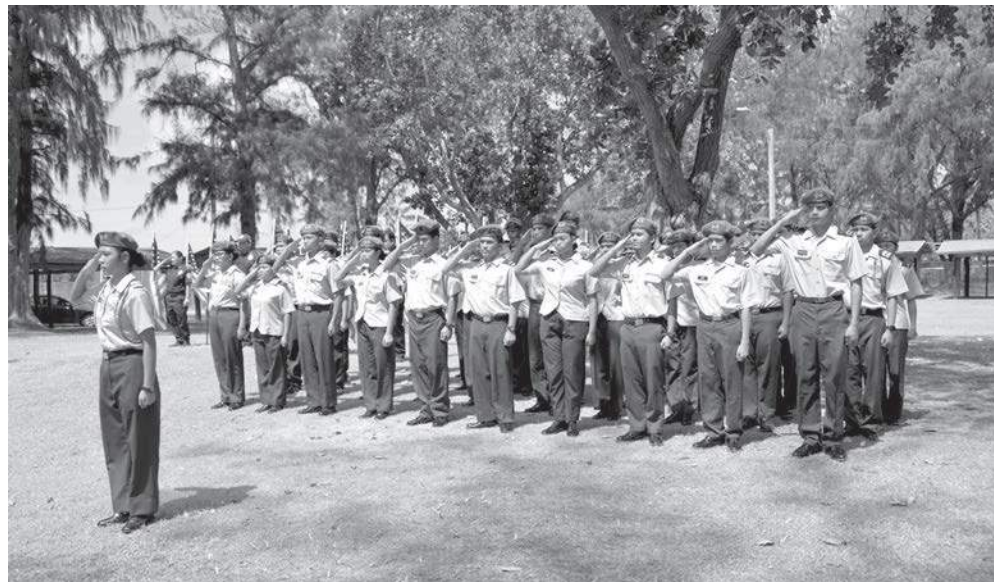
Karen Joy Lagunay beautifully sang both the U.S. national anthem and the CNMI anthem after being introduced by mistress of ceremonies Alexis Hofschneider, who is departmental assistant at the Office of the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan.

Father Rey Rosal then led the invocation after the singing of the national anthems.

Tinian Mayor Joey San Nicolas then spoke by expressing his sentiments of

gratitude toward the many benefits that military servicemen and first responders—both past and present—allow civilians to enjoy. Upon hearing the moving words made by San Nicolas, the tone of the event immediately switched to a respectful one.

The "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes" is aimed at raising funds to finance the expenses of soldiers past and present diagnosed with the condition called Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or PTSD, in which keynote speakers Nazario San Nicolas Borja and director Juan E. Santos expounded on during the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the Tinian Junior Senior High School ROTC Stallion Battalion salute the American flag during the opening ceremonies.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas poses with local government officials, lawmakers, businessmen, and a representative from the military during the kickoff event for the "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes" event held last Tuesday at the Fiesta Grounds on Tinian.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

U.S. soldiers along with members of the Department of Public Safety and the Tinian Junior Senior High School ROTC Stallion Battalion salute the flag of the United States.

opening ceremonies.

The opening ceremonies came to a close with Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Saipan) providing words of gratitude toward the attendees, the sponsors, and the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, which thought of and ex-

ecuted the idea of honoring the servicemen and first responders current, past, and most importantly, those who made the ultimate sacrifice in America's campaign for freedom.

Aside from local leaders and community members, businessmen like Bridge Investment Group executive director Phillip Mendiola-Long and Tan Holdings president and COO Jerry Tan also attended the kickoff event. The TSL Foundation is the charitable arm of Tan Holdings.

PACOM forces come together for Valiant Shield 2016

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii—Forces from the U.S. Pacific Command are scheduled to participate in Exercise Valiant Shield (VS) scheduled for Sept. 12-23, in Guam and around the Marianas Island Range Complex. P

articipants include USS *Ronald Reagan* (CVN 76), nine surface ships, an amphibious readiness group—to include three amphibious vessels, an estimated 18,000 per-

sonnel and more than 180 aircraft from the U.S. Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps.

Valiant Shield is a U.S.-only, biennial field training exercise (FTX) with a focus on integration of joint training in a blue-water environment among U.S. forces. This training enables real-world proficiency in sustaining joint forces through detecting, locating, tracking and engaging units at sea, in the air, on land,

and in cyberspace in response to a range of mission areas.

The participating forces will exercise a wide range of capabilities and demonstrate the inherent flexibility of joint forces. The range of capabilities include maritime security operations, anti-submarine and air defense exercises, amphibious operations, and other elements of complex warfighting.

The lessons learned from

exercises like VS16 will assist U.S. forces in continuing to develop regional and global power projection capabilities that provide a full range of options to succeed in defense of its interests and those of its allies and partners around the world.

The VS series is aimed at developing a "pre-integrated" joint force built from habitual relationships. This force builds interoperable and complemen-

tary cross-domain capabilities and benefits from realistic, shared training enhancing the flexibility to develop new tactics, techniques, and procedures as operational conditions dictate. Such forces will provide the deterrence and stabilizing effects of a force-in-being, ready at the outset of a contingency without delays for buildups or extensive mission rehearsal.

This is the sixth exercise in the Valiant Shield series that began in 2006. (PR)

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 179

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Teen driving, minus the fun

Once upon a time, the teen years meant new freedom, as kids graduated from constant parental supervision and gained easy access to a bigger world. Nothing symbolized this new independence better than a driver's license and a set of wheels.

The Beach Boys captured that adolescent spirit in one immortal song: "Well, she got her daddy's car/ And she cruised through the hamburger stand now/ Seems she forgot all about the library/ Like she told her old man now/ And with the radio blasting/ Goes cruising just as fast as she can now/ And she'll have fun, fun, fun till her daddy takes the T-Bird away."

These days, Daddy would be taking the car away a lot sooner. Or maybe he wouldn't have to — because young Emily would go straight to the library, adhering carefully to the speed limit, with the radio playing at moderate volume. And fun? She can find it at the library, in the dictionary.

All this is because Daddy and Mommy have much better ways to keep tabs on their teenage motorist's time behind the wheel. Various devices and apps have come along to provide data on drivers' habits. Allstate offers discounts on auto insurance to those who install devices that record "information about your driving habits, such as the number of miles you drive, your speed, and how quickly you brake."

But Chevrolet is sparing owners the trouble of installation, while giving them more than just data. It will offer "Teen Driver" technology on 10 of its 2017 models, including the Cruze, the Malibu and the Silverado. As the Chicago Tribune reports, it "can let parents limit the maximum volume on the radio and can give audible and visual warnings when the car is traveling faster than the preapproved speed set by the parent."

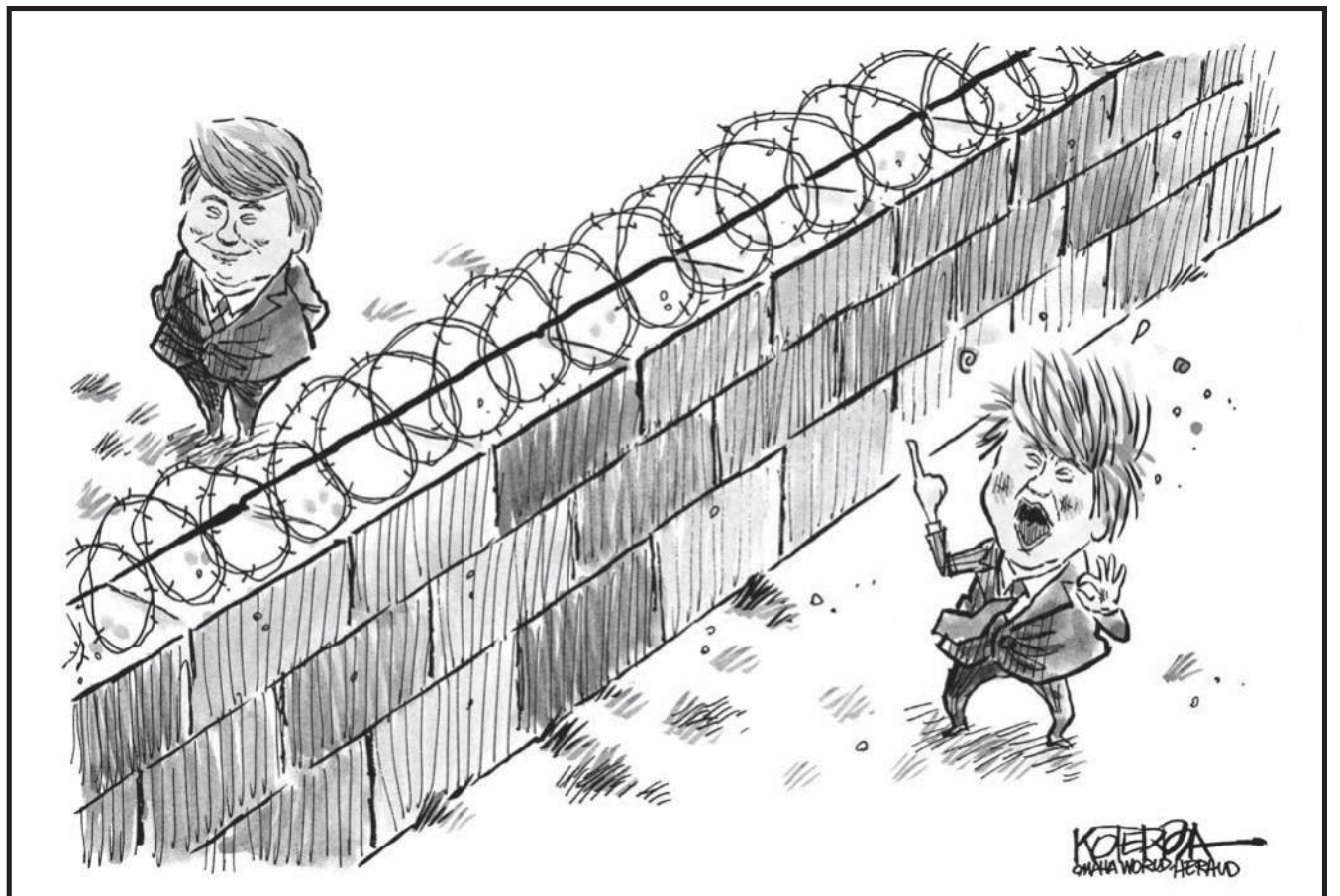
The radio won't work at all if anyone occupying a front seat isn't buckled in. Parents can check a "report card" indicating how far the vehicle went, whether the anti-lock brakes were engaged and whether there were any, um, "wide-open throttle events." Chevy's device is just the latest and most comprehensive version of a type of technology that is also offered by Ford, Hyundai, Kia and Mercedes.

It's no surprise that some parents would want this sort of control. Letting a high school kid take the car out is a high-risk gamble. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that in 2013, "six teens ages 16-19 died every day from motor vehicle injuries." On a per-mile basis, it says, "drivers ages 16 to 19 are nearly three times more likely than drivers aged 20 and older to be in a fatal crash." If keeping their kids safe means tightly limiting and supervising their driving, who can blame parents for being intrusive?

There may be an added safety bonus to this technology: Deprived of so much freedom, teens may elect to stay home and connect on Facebook rather than go to the hamburger stand. Or they may ride their bikes or skateboards, which are not subject to the same sort of control, besides being less risky.

It may also stimulate creativity: For every tactic Mom and Dad devise to keep Junior out of trouble, Junior and

See TEEN on Next Page



Trump fails with latest immigration speech

A dear friend scolded me on Facebook for not letting people know that I'm an immigration lawyer with a "vested interest" in immigration policy, before writing anything on the topic. Actually, short of walking around with an inflatable kiddie pool and carrying a torch while chanting "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free," I think I've been pretty open about what I do from 9-5. But, in the interest of full disclosure and Facebook harmony, here it is again:

I have practiced immigration law full time for over 20 years. I have represented battered women from El Salvador, political prisoners from Albania, human rights activists from Kenya, Olympic gymnasts from Slovakia, research scientists from Ukraine, world-renowned chefs from Italy, ballroom dancers from the Czech Republic and construction workers from Ecuador, Mexico, Romania and places I've forgotten. I've gotten visas for countless couples who found passports to be irrelevant when they fell in love, obtained lawful status for evangelical lay ministers from Guatemala who promised me God would reward me, canceled out the deportations of mothers from Mali who had been genitally mutilated and were afraid the same fate would befall their daughters. And, yes, I've had a few clients who racked up DUIs, or committed misdemeanor shoplifting offenses, or lied about being U.S. citizens so they could escape a civil war in West Africa. So, yes, I do have a dog in this fight.

Now, can we talk?

I approached Donald Trump's speech Wednesday night with anticipation, hope and trepidation. I was willing to keep an open mind about a topic that, next to abortion rights and religious freedom, is the most important issue for me in this campaign. I was prepared to praise the man if he came out with an honest, workable, non-tweetable attempt to address the extremely complicated factors that go into the whole concept of "illegal immigration."

To say I was disappointed is an understatement along the level of "Houston, we have a problem."

I listened politely as the Republican presidential nominee spoke about building his wall, and understood that this was an appealing concept to many — including myself — who are troubled by the fluidity of our borders. As he discussed the modalities that would be used to build that wall, evoking technologies apparently not yet in existence, I realized that his use of this concept was much more symbolic than anything else. "Build a wall" has been an effective slogan over the years for many conservative opponents of immigration, and it doesn't require much cerebral heavy lifting. The idea that we can build a physical barrier to keep people out of our country appeals to the emotional need to "keep us safe, and keep the other guy from taking what is ours."

Trump sounded more poetic than Maya Angelou: "On Day 1, we will begin working on an impenetrable, physical, tall, powerful, beautiful Southern border wall." He talked about "above-

By **CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS**
Philadelphia Daily News

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. Readers may send her email at cflowers1961@gmail.com.



and below-ground sensors" which other people call "tunnels." He talked about aerial surveillance, towers and additional manpower. And he said Mexico would pay for the wall, even though the Mexican president whom he'd met only hours before made it clear that Mexico no paga.

So the estimated \$8 billion to \$12 billion needed to build this "beautiful Southern border wall" will have to come from somewhere, and that's still up in the air (maybe the aerial surveillance Trump referenced can locate it). And then, because Trump likes walls so much, I'm sure he will want to build a "beautiful Northern border wall," too, because, well, you don't want to have those pesky Canadians and Eskimos flooding indiscriminately across the border (except the native Alaskan Eskimos who, we presume, are native born. Assuming they have birth certificates, because you know how Donald likes birth certificates).

Beyond the wall, and the absolute lack of detail on the methodologies by which it would both be built and financed, Trump talked about how he would increase the border patrol force by about 25 percent. I think that is a fantastic idea, but I'd like to know where that money is coming from, too, especially after we build those walls. To say you are going to hire people is great, but unless you show how that's economically plausible, it's just a nice bumper-sticker slogan.

Then Trump announced the revolutionary concept that he would change enforcement priorities by "removing criminals, gang members, security threats, visa overstays, (and) public charges." I stood up and gave him a standing ovation when I heard that. But I gave President Obama that same standing ovation when he announced those same priorities in November 2014. Yawn.

Trump then talked about screening refugees, and no one who has seen the brutality wreaked by ISIS and other Islamic terror groups should object to that. But, as experts have noted, refugees generally undergo the most rigorous and time-consuming process of any category of immigrants who enter the U.S. Sometimes the process can take up to 18 months, or more. So again, nothing new.

And he talked about jobs, which is a big part of his appeal, the great job creator. Good for him. I agree something must be done to bring workers out of the shadows, provide them with

See TRUMP on Next Page

Japan’s notorious dolphin hunt is where the world’s aquariums shop

By **PETER SINGER** and **JORDAN SOSNOWSKI**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The notorious annual dolphin hunt got underway last week in the small Japanese town of Taiji. During the six-month hunting season, terrified dolphins are violently herded into a narrow cove. Most are slaughtered — but scores of “good-looking” ones are captured and shipped off to aquariums.

The Taiji hunts always receive a barrage of condemnation, and especially so since the release of the Oscar-nominated documentary “The Cove” in 2009. While the hunters maintain they are culling dolphin “pests” who eat too many fish, the primary economic incentive for the Taiji drive hunts is the aquarium industry. Live dolphins sell for around \$50,000, and this is what keeps the hunters in business.

If there were no demand for live dolphins from Taiji, it is highly likely this annual slaughter of hundreds of dolphins would cease.

After legal action last year from the advocacy group Australia for Dolphins and significant public pressure, the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums changed its policy and began to oppose the capture of cetaceans. To maintain membership in WAZA, all member aquariums had to agree not to buy dolphins from Taiji or any other drive hunt.

Strangely, the professional association that represents dolphin trainers hasn’t taken the same step. The International Marine Animal Trainers’ Association strongly opposes the dolphin slaughter that occurs in Taiji, but it accepts the capture of dolphins that happens during the same hunts. IMATA has a policy that expressly allows its members to participate in the brutal collection process in Taiji, during which dolphins are dragged through the water by their tail flukes and violently torn from their families. According to the organization’s statement, a trainer is welcome in IMATA “even if s/he participates in the selection and collection of live animals on the premise that those animals will benefit as s/he is exposed to the most current best practices in animal care and training.”

To those who have been to Taiji and witnessed a drive hunt, it is obvious that the killing and capture of dolphins are inextricably linked. Because the capture fuels the slaughter, IMATA can-

TRUMP

From Page 10

work authorization, give them identification cards and continue to allow them to work legally in our restaurant kitchens, mowing our back yards and cleaning our bathrooms. Oh, yeah, and winning Olympic medals for us when they become naturalized U.S. citizens.

But the thing that finally made me realize this was not a serious speech was the last part, when Trump brought the mothers of slain citizens on stage to say “Vote for me.” In this powerful, hardly subliminal attack on so-called sanctuary cities, Trump did what the Democratic National Convention was justifiably criticized for doing when it trotted the mothers of Michael Brown and other so-called victims of police brutality on stage. I was appalled then that we would use mothers’ grief to advance an agenda (even where that agenda was specious). I was appalled when Trump did the same thing.

The suggestion that illegal aliens must be kept out of the country because they have an innate tendency to be more violent and homicidal than the average native-born American is wrong. Debatable, but still wrong. Statistics consistently show that immigrants commit violent crimes at a significantly lower rate than the native-born. It’s an argument we can have; I’m fine with that.

My problem is using death to make your partisan point.

“My boy was shot by a cop. They’re bigoted monsters.”

“My boy was killed by an illegal. They’re homicidal maniacs.”

Same tune, different verses.

And if you don’t think it’s the same tune, that’s because your ears are registered with a different party, and you think some mothers are less entitled to grieve than others.

As for me, I’m thinking Helen Keller was lucky.

TEEN

From Page 10

his buddies will look for ways to defeat it or get around it. Teen Driver may look foolproof, but we’re betting it’s not, quite.

Still, 16-year-olds are going to find cars considerably less liberating than they were in the old days. For those who want to experience driving thrills — well, there are always video games.

not rationally condemn one while accepting the other. Dolphin trainers in wetsuits and hats brandishing the IMATA logo stand side by side with the Japanese hunters, choosing which dolphins will live in their aquariums and which will die.

Dolphins weigh up to 1,100 pounds, so it is not a gentle process to haul them into a boat. They struggle, often injuring themselves. Some even purposely beach themselves on rocks in an attempt to save themselves. The initial herding process, where dolphins are chased by speedboats and driven to the point of exhaustion, is also incredibly cruel, leading many dolphins to drown or die from cardiac arrest. From an animal welfare perspective, these hunts are truly shocking. From a conservation angle, the hunts are devastating for local dolphin populations, which are at risk of extinction. Last year, more than 650 cetaceans were killed, and 117 captured.

If IMATA were to change its policy, marine facilities around the world would find it difficult to source wild dolphins. It would give trainers, too, second thoughts about participating in a process that is condemned by the entire zoo and aquarium community, facilities and training associations alike.

SeaWorld could also lead the way. The theme-park chain has been bending over backward to improve its image since the release of the 2013 documentary “Blackfish.” Still, many SeaWorld trainers are IMATA members, including the organization’s first vice president, and the company is hosting IMATA’s

POEMS

Trump triumphant?
Regrets? No sweats!

By JOSEPH CONNOLLY

in front of a white audience DT reached out to African American voters a trying Trump repeatedly asked “ What the hell do you have to lose?” a question we know the answer to is, What the hell does he have to lose? he needs black votes, wants to be POTUS. Who could ever vote thus? remember the Mexican Wall promise? There’s something new to choose “Breitbart Border Wall Construction Co.” T-shirts on the campaign bus so as he finally got a bad case of being ‘behind in every poll’ sweats he brought in some headhunters and a few really heavy duty hitters Donald went right on camera saying there were some words he regrets then said,“I will always tell you the truth” infamous line used by bullshitters yes, always partial truth in a manner rude and uncouth like “Lyin Ted” and about using totally non presidential language he’s not a hypocrite he’s sarcastic but “ not that sarcastic to be honest with you ” he’s said it’s impossible for him to stay on message and he seems unable to quit

D.T. has some
regrets but no tears
goodbye

By JOSEPH CONNOLLY

Donald says he regrets some words but there are no tears goodbye and there’s one thing for sure, “I will always tell you the truth.” “I am what I am.” I’m a billionaire ‘Big League’ business guy what comes out of my mouth is bombast, insulting, and uncouth well I brought some new folks onto my changing campaign staff one’s called, “the most dangerous political operative in America” well BELIEVE ME I can guarantee he won’t make Hillary Clinton laugh ‘I regret it and I do regret it” and don’t forget it she’ll go through hell new CEO Steve Bannon, former Goldman Sacks banker, a Wall St. type transferee from Breitbart News, once made a film supporting Sarah Palin Obama is the founder of ISIS, Hillary is cofounder, that’s true not hype “You can get that baby out of here” for crying while I’m up here failing how long will it be till the next insult, more sarcasm, the next faux pas when we then hear more halfhearted words of regret drop from his jaw

Joseph “Pepe Batbon” Connolly is a retired CNMI PSS teacher who taught English on Tinian and Saipan from 1984 to 2014. He currently enjoys studying cosmology, Asian poetry, and life on Tinian.

annual conference in November in San Diego.

Last year, the company committed to never buy cetaceans taken from the wild again. To make that commitment stick, it should cut all ties to the Taiji hunts — including to organizations such as IMATA that allow members to be directly involved in the dolphin hunts.

If the history of the animal rights movement has taught us anything, it is that big wins for animals do not come about as quickly as we might hope.

Nevertheless, important progress has been made in many areas of animal welfare, including within the entertainment industry. It once seemed radical to oppose many animal abuses — for example, keeping laying hens in battery cages. Now the idea is so mainstream that even McDonald’s and Walmart have agreed to phase out the use of eggs from caged hens.

Rightly or wrongly, most Americans care more about dolphins than hens. Hopefully, IMATA and SeaWorld will soon realize that their publicly stated concern for dolphins’ welfare must extend beyond their pools and tanks to include the wild, free-living dolphins off the coast of Japan.

Peter Singer is professor of bioethics at Princeton University, and laureate professor at the University of Melbourne in Australia. He is the author of “Animal Liberation” and, most recently, “Ethics in the Real World.” Jordan Sosnowski is a lawyer and the advocacy director at Australia for Dolphins and an associate fellow at the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Kudos to governor, Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero on CUC board

Kudos to the governor who was right about not abolishing the CUC board as the problem is the people on the board—personality conflicts. I also know that leadership on the board has to be challenging and may need support from the governor which is why it is important for the board members to know they can get fired. Firing appointees is the beauty of getting rid of poorly functioning appointed people for the lack of a better word. We the people are seeing all kinds of disagreements in board matters and we never attended a single meeting. The board is obviously arguing more than they are getting work done because the disagreements are all we the people are hearing about in the news. We the people have been looking for CUC to get on a track to modernization for over a decade but all we get is one emergency after another and the board can’t even keep a leader! People are already talking about abolishing the board but I believe they should be thinking more toward replacing all the board members who are doing more fighting than solving problems because we the people have seen enough fighting and we want solutions!

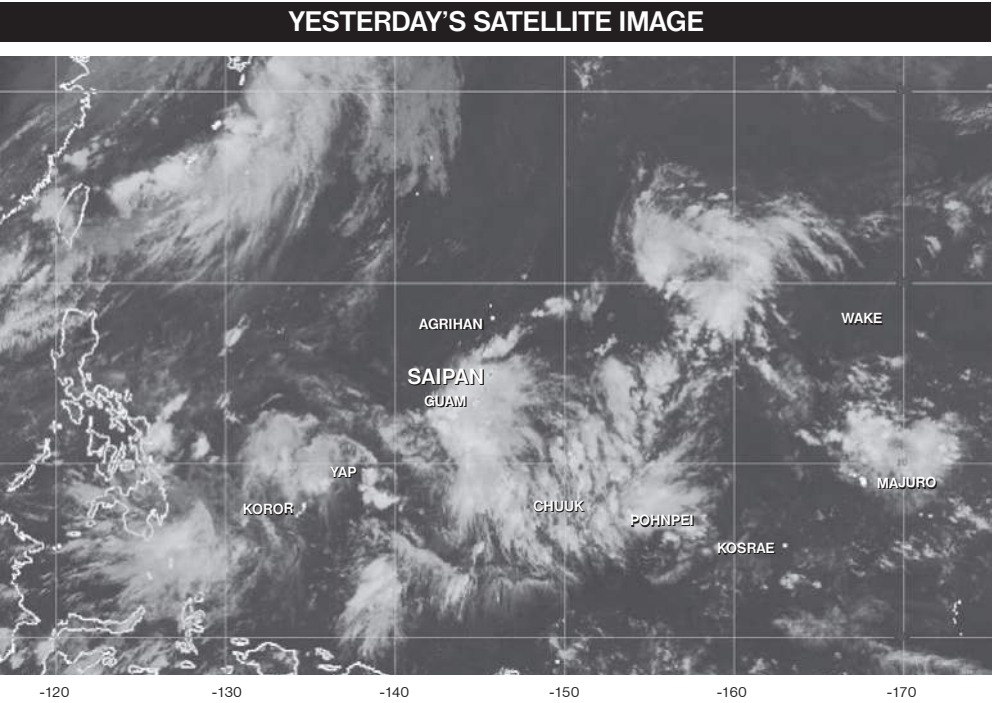
Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero is already planning to attend a meeting to see for himself what is going on with the board and to offer possible solutions. I want to thank him and say kudos for walking his talk. Hopefully the governor will also send a representative to monitor the board’s actions and behavior through the present crisis they are presently faced with. If there is someone causing a problem on the Board instead of letting issues stand on their merits in a professional democratic process fire them and appoint someone else who will, it’s really that simple. The governor only needs to fire one and the rest will get the message to shape up or get out. He may lose the political real estate of the board member but he will gain the confidence of many voters. Sometimes strong leadership is needed which is why I am suggesting them to read the four styles of leadership in the “Management of Organizational Behavior” by Paul Hersey, Kenneth H. Blanchard, Dewey E. Johnson which can help any person in a leadership role determine what they need to do depending on the situation and factors.

I am not pointing a finger at any board member just letting them know we the people have had enough of one problem after another with CUC—fix it! CUC did a great job with the recovery from the typhoon but you are struggling to live up to federal mandates and meeting the expectations for maintenance, growth, and efficiency. Thank you governor and Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero and godspeed with CUC.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN				
TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°



PICTURE TIME: 11:37 AM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

PGUA Doppler weather radar shows scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within the Guam and Rota waters. The VAD wind profile reveals north-northwest winds of 5 to 10 knots through the lowest 7 thousand feet of the air, which then turns toward the north at around 8 thousand feet, then increases to 10 to 20 knots and turns toward the northeast at around 12 thousand feet. A surface trough is depicted by ASCAT just south and east of Guam. This trough will generate scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms for Guam and Rota and surrounding waters. Models tend to dry things out by tonight, so kept the inherited forecast after this period.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Morning clouds	80 / 89 °F
Palau	Partly sunny	80 / 86 °F
Yap	Mostly cloudy	77 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Mostly cloudy	78 / 87 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	76 / 86 °F
Kosrae	Afternoon clouds	82 / 87 °F
Majuro	Mostly cloudy	83 / 87 °F
AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Partly cloudy	46 / 53 °F
Beijing	Partly cloudy	60 / 88 °F
Hong Kong	Mostly cloudy	80 / 85 °F
Honolulu	Mostly sunny	74 / 83 °F
London	Morning clouds	61 / 73 °F
Los Angeles	Morning clouds	64 / 78 °F
Manila	Partly sunny	80 / 94 °F
Melbourne	Afternoon clouds	59 / 70 °F
Miami	Partly sunny	79 / 87 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	71 / 89 °F
Osaka	Mostly cloudy	73 / 85 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	57 / 79 °F
Pusan	Partly cloudy	71 / 83 °F
Rome	Morning clouds	61 / 84 °F
Salem	Mostly sunny	54 / 77 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	57 / 69 °F
Seoul	Mostly cloudy	66 / 83 °F
Tokyo	Heavy rain	76 / 82 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly sunny	73 / 93 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
6:11 AM	LOW TIDE	0.36 Feet
12:33 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.5 Feet
6:17 PM	LOW TIDE	0.97 Feet
11:42 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.63 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:21 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	11:20 AM	11:06 PM
Friday	12:09 PM	11:51 PM
Saturday	12:58 PM	-
Sunday	1:48 PM	12:39 AM
Monday	2:39 PM	1:30 AM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2016											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily			UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily		
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota			UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6			UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota		
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily			UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily		
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily			UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily			DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily		
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily		
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily			OZ6053	10:35am	4:05pm	4, 7		
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily			OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
OZ6063	5:15pm	8:35pm	4, 7			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM			PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7		
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4			UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM		
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM			PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM		
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR			UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM								
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM								
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR								
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7		
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM			UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM								

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday

‘We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes’ Kickoff

PHOTOS By ERWIN ENCINARES



From left, Saipan Mayor's Office Field Operations director Joann Aquino, Tan Holdings Corp. Corporate Affairs program specialist Eunice Angeles, Saipan Mayor David Apatang, PRATC Training coordinator Carol Hosono, and Tan Holdings vice president for Corporate Affairs Cathy Attao pose for a picture in front of the flags at the CPA Airport Field last Tuesday during the kickoff event for the "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes."



From left, on-leave press secretary Ivan Blanco with her daughter Paige, Duane Samiano, Saipan Mayor David Apatang, and Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) pose for a photo at the CPA Airport Field.



Ivan Blanco and Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) pose for a photo at the CPA Airport Field



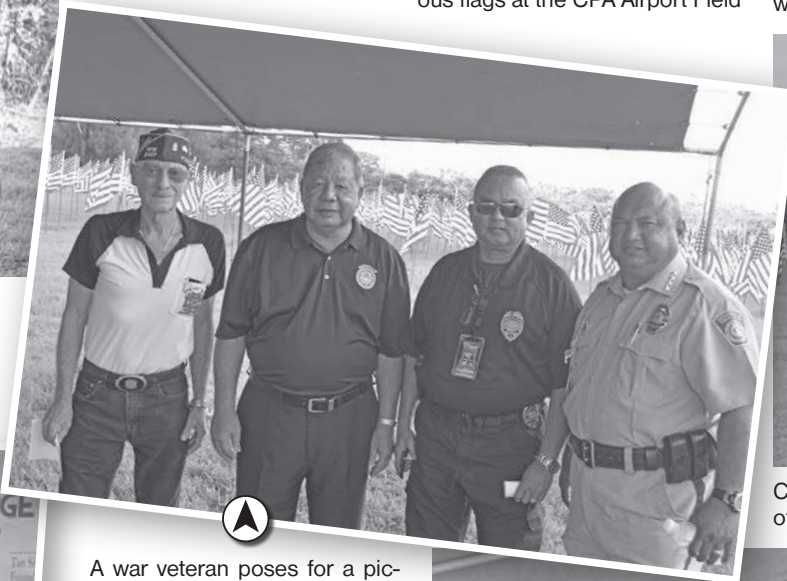
A rainbow comes out over the flags to portray a beautiful scene in conjunction with the numerous flags at the CPA Airport Field



Duane Samiano shakes the hand of Saipan Mayor David Apatang while sharing some words.



Let's Go Tours Saipan general manager Edward Arriola Jr. poses with wife Marilou Arriola and their kids. Marilou Arriola is the executive assistant Tan Holdings president and COO Jerry Tan.



A war veteran poses for a picture with Saipan Mayor David Apatang, CPA police chief John Dela Cruz, and Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero.



CPA acting executive director Chris Tenorio poses for a picture with officers from CPA.



Duane Samiano, war veteran and Federal Security assistant director for the Transportation and Security Administration on Saipan, shares powerful words from both the perspective of a civilian and that of a veteran.

Tan Holdings Corp. Corporate Affairs program specialist Eunice Angeles leads the prayer during the opening ceremony of the "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes."



Saipan Mayor David Apatang sits in the front with Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) and a war veteran during the opening ceremonies of the "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes" event.



AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS!

TRUCKLOAD STORE direct from K MART

STORE HOURS: THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 11AM TO 7PM • SATURDAY 9AM TO 7PM

Imusa 5 Quart Electric Pressure Cooker

\$89⁹⁵

T-Fal 12 Piece Banquet Cookware Set

\$93⁹⁵

Hamilton Beach Flexbrew 2 Way Coffeemaker

\$65⁹⁵

Yong Jiu Plastic Cutting Board 42cmx28cm

\$3⁹⁵

Kung Fu Master Grater

\$7⁹⁵

Magic Chef 7 Piece Cutlery Concord Collection

\$16⁹⁵

7 Piece Plastic Food Storage Container

\$4⁹⁵

Nordic Ware Angel Food Pan

\$9⁹⁵

Thermal Insulated 5 Piece Water Jug Set

\$25⁹⁵

Hexagon 5 Piece Plastic Food Storage Container

\$4⁹⁵

Rice Container 10KG

\$19⁹⁵

Essential Home Sydney 5 Piece Dining Set

\$299⁹⁵

Essential Home Grayson 6 Drawer Dresser

\$176⁹⁵

Plastic 6 Drawer Dresser with Character Design

\$99⁹⁵

Aige Professional Active Speaker

\$65⁹⁵

Mobil Multimedia Speaker MS-70

\$29⁹⁵

Samsung HDTV DVD Player

\$69⁹⁵

Bluetooth Stereo Headphones

\$15⁹⁵

VIZIO 48" LED SMART TV

\$695⁹⁵

LG 5,000 BTU AIR CONDITIONER REFURBISHED

\$149⁹⁵

NECK PROTECTION MEMORY FOAM PILLOW

\$8⁹⁵

FOLDING BEACH LOUNGE CHAIR

\$25⁹⁵

FOLDING COT

\$25⁹⁵

FOLDING CLOTH DRYING RACK

\$14⁹⁵

OSTER 1.1CU.FT. MICROWAVE

\$118⁹⁵

GALANZ 10 CUP RICE COOKER

\$28⁹⁵

Dorel 3 Shelf Bookcase

\$29⁹⁵

Stackable Shoe Rack 30 Pair

\$11⁹⁵

Rechargeable Land Cruiser with Remote

\$149⁹⁵

Wildsun Basketball

\$11⁹⁵

Yonardo Tool Box

\$13⁹⁵

Craftsman 94 Piece Mechanical Tool Set

\$63⁹⁵

Rubber 4 Piece Car Mat Set

\$6⁹⁵

Rubbermaid 35 Quart Wavebrake Mop Bucket

\$86⁹⁵

Round Trash Bin 48cmX37cmX54cm

\$10⁹⁵

Essential Home 40 Gallon Storage Blue Silver Lock

\$28⁹⁵

Cookinex Full Function Steam Iron

\$9⁹⁵

Eva Mat

\$10⁹⁵

Yoga Mat

\$6⁹⁵

Throw Pillow 53x53cm Printed Flower

\$5⁹⁵

Coleman 48 Quart Cooler

\$29⁹⁵

Stackable Plastic White Chair

\$10⁹⁵

Z-Shape Prestige 13ftX13ft Instant Gazebo

\$185⁹⁵



Come and visit us at the Triple J Wholesale Store
We reserve the right to limit quantity purchases on all items.

For more info, please call: 322-0430



Business

Venezuela pets go hungry as economic crisis deepens

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Carlos Parra used to love waking up to see his pet albino boxer, Nina. Now, seeing her skeletal body on the floor next to his bed has become a daily reminder of the economic crisis engulfing Venezuela.

His other dog's thick fur barely hides her ribcage as Parra struggles to feed his pets after losing his job at a shoe store. "It's terrible to sit and eat, see them watching me with hunger, and not be able to do anything," said the 30-year-old. As Venezuela's economic crunch worsens, food shortages and rising poverty are forcing once middle-class Venezuelans to do the unthinkable: let their pets starve or abandon them in the streets.

No figures are available, but activists and veterinarians say they are seeing a growing number of dogs and cats abandoned at parks, shelters, and private clinics.

In Caracas it has become common to see purebred dogs rummaging in the trash or lying outdoors, filthy and gaunt, in posh neighborhoods. The animal protection and control center in the capital's Baruta neighborhood saw as many as 10 animals abandoned each day this summer, head veterinarian Russer Rios said. Up to about a year ago there were almost none. "Now people just leave them here because they can't take care of them," Rios said. Shelters are running classes teaching pet owners to look for food substitutes in the hopes of helping them maintain their pets through the crisis. At one private shelter in the working-class Caracas neighborhood of El Junquito, a popular alternative for dogs that would never have been considered in better times is chickenfeed. "We have to give it to them because there's nothing else," Katty Quintas, a part owner of



In this July 23, 2016 photo, abandoned dogs gather for feeding time at the private shelter Funasissi, in the working-class Caracas neighborhood of El Junquito, Venezuela.

the Funasissi shelter, said as three skinny cats looked on hungrily from the top of a refrigerator. The shelter is now home to more than 200 cats and dogs. One of the country's largest animal shelters is run by Mission Nevado, a government

program set up by socialist President Nicolas Maduro and named in honor of independence hero Simon Bolivar's four-legged sidekick, dubbed "Nevado" for its white, snow-like fur. Program veterinarian Angel Mancilla said the shel-

ter, which currently houses about 100 cats and dogs, has collapsed under the influx. "We're crying every day. You leave each day feeling traumatized," Mancilla said. Pet owners say the price of dog food has more than doubled in recent months to \$2 a pound, more than a day's pay for those earning the minimum wage.

In August, as Parra and his

parents in the central city of Barquisimeto struggled to get by on his father's \$23 monthly pension, he turned in desperation to a Facebook group that donates dog food to families that cannot afford it. But he received just one bag of food, enough to last a few weeks. He said he feels like he's choosing each day between feeding himself and his parents, or his beloved pets.

"Sometimes we go to bed with empty stomachs," he said. "It's really hard."

The problem is also affecting zoos and racetracks. Zoo workers in Caracas say they do not have enough food for large mammals like tigers and tapirs.

This spring 72 horses died from starvation or malnutrition at the Santa Rita racetrack in the western city of Maracaibo, which was closed due to problems with criminal gangs.

European proposal to ban American lobsters to move forward

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)—The European Union will conduct a more extensive review of a proposal to ban lobsters imported from the U.S. and Canada after a scientific panel concluded Sweden raised valid points in its request to declare the American lobster an invasive species.

The opinion of the European Union's Scientific Forum on Invasive Alien Species sets in motion a broader review that also will take into account the opinions of North American officials, who've criticized the proposal to

ban American lobsters. The international dispute started when Sweden announced it had found 32 American lobsters in the country's waters earlier this year and that they pose a threat to native crustaceans. Lobstermen in the U.S. and Canada, which together export \$200 million worth of lobster to EU countries each year, had hoped to stop the proposal before it moved any further. The congressional delegation in Maine, the nation's lobster leader, issued a statement

saying the EU's actions represent an "unnecessary overreaction that would have devastating economic effects on the American lobster industry that supports so many Mainers and their families." A spokesman for the European Union stressed that the scientific panel's conclusion is considered preliminary. The full review won't be completed until spring at the earliest. The expanded review will include issues raised by scientists in the United States and Canada, and it'll also consider

economic impact and means of protecting native lobsters other than an outright ban, the European Union's executive body said Tuesday in a statement. It's unclear how the American lobsters ended up in Swedish waters. Sweden's Agency for Marine and Water Management contends the country is right to be cautious about the appearance of a foreign species. The agency also says more research is needed into the impact of cross-breeding of American and European lobsters.

LG unveils the first phone to ship with Google's new Android

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—LG is unveiling the first phone to ship with Google's new Android Nougat software, in hopes of appealing to people who like to take and share photos and video. The new V20 phone comes on the eve of a San Francisco event where Apple is expected to launch new iPhones. Nougat is already available as a free upgrade on some Google phones under the Nexus brand. The V20 would be the first with Nougat already installed. Other phones aren't likely to get Nougat for a while because individual phone makers and wireless carriers have to tweak and test the new software first.

Many of the Android improvements in Nougat are "under the hood" and thus largely invisible, such as tweaks to reduce battery consumption and cellular data use. The most obvious changes include the ability to run two apps side by side, something

Samsung and LG have offered on their phones on a limited basis. Nougat will also let people reply to messages within notifications, something Apple already offers on iPhones. Meanwhile, the V20 promises higher-quality audio playback and recording, with reduced background noise, according to LG. The company also says it also improved image stabilization when recording video. LG spokesman Frank Lee described the V20's target audience as "storytellers." Like LG's G5 phone, which it released in April, the V20 will have two lenses on the main camera—one for regular pictures and one with a wide angle to capture more of the scene. Unlike many other top-line phones, the V20 features a replaceable battery. The V20 is expected in South Korea this month, with other markets, including the U.S., to follow. LG didn't immediately announce prices.

EPA shuts down 17 wells in Osage Nation after Oklahoma quake

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Federal regulators have shut down 17 wastewater disposal wells in the Osage Nation of northeastern Oklahoma following a weekend earthquake that matched the state's strongest on record, state officials confirmed Tuesday. Because the wells are located on tribal land, Oklahoma regulators have no jurisdiction over oil- and gas-producing facilities in the region. Oklahoma Corporation Commissioner Matt Skinner told The Associated Press that the U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency notified the state Tuesday that 17 wells were ordered closed. "We've never had to do anything that directly involved Osage County, but on Saturday (the EPA) were quick to respond," Skinner said. "They confirmed on Sunday they were going to put that directive in place, and today they gave us the numbers." The 17 wells are located in a 211-square mile area within Osage County, near where a magnitude 5.6 temblor struck Saturday. The epicenter was near Pawnee.

One man suffered a minor head injury in the quake when part of a fireplace fell on him, and emergency management officials said Tuesday they have received reports of damage to at least 11 homes. Oklahoma State University also reported several buildings at the Stillwater campus sustained damage, but all of those were determined by structural engineers to be safe for occupancy. A regional spokesman for the EPA, Joe Hubbard, did not confirm any details about the wells in Osage County

that were shut down, including the volume of wastewater that was being disposed into them. An increase in magnitude 3.0 or greater earthquakes in Oklahoma has been linked to underground disposal of wastewater from oil and natural gas production. "We are working closely with the state of Oklahoma, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Osage Nation to evaluate available information and take appropriate next steps to protect public health and the environment," Hubbard said in a statement.

STOCK

PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW 18,538.12 +46.16 +0.25%	S&P 2,186.48 3.73 +6.50%	NASDAQ 5,275.91 +26.01 +0.50%
---	--	---

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3025	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7557	Philippine Peso	46.45
British Pound	0.7455	Indian Rupee	66.37	Singapore Dollar	1.3469
Canadian Dollar	1.2842	Indonesian Rupiah	13054	South Korean Won	1091.8
Chinese Yuan	6.6674	Japanese Yen	101.436	Swiss Franc	0.9688
Euro	0.8883	Malaysian Ringgit	4.063	Taiwan Dollar	31.22
		New Zealand Dollar	1.3455	Thailand Baht	34.57

Nation

Clinton: He's a national security danger. Trump: No, she is

GREENVILLE, N.C. (AP)—Donald Trump said Tuesday night that Hillary Clinton's handling of private emails disqualifies her to serve as president. His own temperament, Trump said, was his "single greatest asset" and not the national security danger that Clinton alleges.

Trump's charge, delivered to a packed crowd in swing state North Carolina, marked a pointed escalation of the Republican White House hopeful's case against his Democratic challenger as both court military families in key Southern battlegrounds. Clinton, meanwhile, accused Trump of insulting America's veterans and pressing dangerous military plans around the globe.

Clinton, addressing supporters in Florida, warned that Trump would lead the nation back to war in the Middle East. And to military vets and their families, she pointed anew to his summertime dust-up with the Muslim parents of a slain American soldier.

"His whole campaign has been one long insult to all those who have worn the uniform," the Democratic nominee said at the University of South Florida in Tampa.

Trump, trying to emphasize his military support, released a letter from 88 retired generals and admirals citing an urgent

need for a "course correction" in America's national security policy. It was aimed at rebutting Clinton's arguments that she would be best positioned to lead the military and reassuring Republicans who have openly worried that his provocative statements might undermine U.S. alliances.

"We believe that such a change can only be made by someone who has not been deeply involved with, and substantially responsible for, the hollowing out of our military and the burgeoning threats facing our country around the world," the military leaders wrote. "For this reason, we support Donald Trump's candidacy to be our next commander in chief."

Trump promoted the letter as he campaigned in Virginia and North Carolina on Tuesday, suggesting that he would rely on the generals to make up for his own lack of national security inexperience to take on the Islamic State group. He vowed to give military leaders a "simple instruction" soon after taking office: "They will have 30 days to submit to the Oval Office a plan for soundly and quickly defeating ISIS."

Clinton pushed back, saying Trump has lagged in securing key military supporters compared to past Republican



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton speaks at a rally at University of South Florida in Tampa, Fla., Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016.

nominees including John McCain and Mitt Romney. She pointed to her endorsements from retired Marine Gen. John Allen, who blasted Trump at the Democratic National Committee, and former CIA deputy director Mike Morell.

"They know they can count on me to be the kind

of commander in chief who will protect our country and our troops, and they know they cannot count on Donald Trump," Clinton said en route to Florida. "They view him as a danger and a risk."

The conflicting messages came as the candidates prepared to appear at an MSNBC

forum Wednesday night on national security. While they will appear separately and not be on stage at the same time, it could serve as a warm-up to their highly-anticipated first presidential debate on Sep. 26 in New York.

Meanwhile, Clinton's campaign released a new televi-

sion ad entitled "Sacrifice," showing military veterans watching some of the New York businessman's more provocative statements.

The spot includes clips of Trump claiming to know more about the Islamic State group than military generals, and his criticism of McCain, the Republican senator from Arizona and a former prisoner of war. The ad, which features former Georgia Sen. Max Cleland, a triple-amputee who served in Vietnam, also keys on Trump's assertion that he has sacrificed a lot compared to families who have lost loved ones in conflict.

"Our veterans deserve better," reads a line at the end of the ad, which is airing in Ohio, Florida, Iowa, Nevada and Pennsylvania.

Separately, Trump continued to face questions about his immigration policy a day after refusing to rule out a pathway to legal status for immigrants in the country illegally. He focused on his proposed border wall plan in a Tuesday interview with ABC's "Good Morning America."

House votes to ensure rights for sexual assault survivors

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House on Tuesday unanimously approved legislation outlining a federal bill of rights for survivors of sexual assault, following a national outcry over the sexual assault of an unconscious woman by a former Stanford University swimmer.

The House bill would ensure that survivors in federal criminal cases have a right to a sexual assault evidence collection kit, to be told of the results and to be notified in writing before the kit is destroyed. Lawmakers said they are troubled by the number of untested rape kits that remain in the country, despite efforts to reduce a national backlog.

Rep. Mimi Walters, R-Calif., one of the bill's sponsors, said she hopes it can serve as a model for states, which she said now have an uneven patchwork of laws across the country.

That patchwork all-too-often "prevents sexual assault survivors from having full access to the justice system,"

Walters said.

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., said the bill would give sexual assault survivors additional rights in seeking justice and help them recover from trauma.

The bill heads to the Senate, where similar legislation was approved this spring.

Former Stanford swimmer Brock Turner registered as a sex offender Tuesday in Ohio, where he's living with his parents.

Turner was convicted of assaulting a woman last year near a trash bin after they drank heavily at a fraternity party. The woman passed out, and Turner was on top of her when confronted by two graduate students passing by on bicycles.

The case exploded on social media and ignited a debate about campus rape and the criminal justice system after a letter the accuser read at Turner's sentencing was published online.

Execution drop makes some think death penalty is fading away

WASHINGTON (AP)—Is the death penalty in America gradually dying?

There have been just two executions since May 1 and the total for 2016 probably will hit a 25-year low.

Execution drug shortages, sometimes grotesque errors in death chambers and legal challenges to sentences imposed by judges have contributed to a dramatic decline in the number of states that are carrying out executions.

Just three states, Texas, Georgia and Missouri, are using the death penalty with

any regularity, though Texas has not executed anyone since April. Four executions are scheduled in the state before the end of the year.

The reduction in executions and in the number of states that are enforcing death sentences led Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg to conclude recently, "I think the death penalty is fading away." There is not enough support on the court to abolish capital punishment, Ginsburg said, but added that may not be necessary.

"Most states don't have

any executions. The executions that we have are very heavily concentrated in a few states and even a few counties within those states," she said in an interview with The Associated Press in July. Ginsburg joined a lengthy dissenting opinion by Justice Stephen Breyer last year that highlighted problems with the death penalty that led the two justices to conclude that it probably is unconstitutional.

States that have had to halt executions, though, are trying to figure out how to resume. Ohio and Oklahoma

are among states that intend to re-start executions once they have corrected well-publicized problems in their death chambers.

Ohio, which last executed an inmate in January 2014, has set a January 12 execution date for a man convicted of raping and killing a three-year-old girl in Akron. But it's unclear whether his execution, or more than two dozen others that are scheduled into 2020, will take place because the state lacks lethal execution drugs and has struggled to find a supplier, as have other states.

Happy landings: 3 space station crewmembers back on Earth

After watching more than 2,750 sunrises from above the Earth, three crew members of the International Space Station returned to the planet for a sparkling sunrise back on Earth Wednesday.

A record-setting American astronaut and his two Russian colleagues felt the sun beat down on them on a cloudless morning after a six-month trek in orbit.

NASA's Jeff Williams returned as the U.S. record holder for time in orbit, logging 534 days in space over four missions. Williams, Alexey Ovchinin and Oleg Skripochka logged 72.8 million miles in

space, circling the globe 2,752 times before landing on target in the south central steppes of Kazakhstan just 23 minutes after sunrise Wednesday, 7:13 a.m. local time (1:13 a.m. GMT).

Stretched out in chairs placed in the brown wild grass, the three flyers were all smiles, giving thumbs up, chatting on cell phones. They were promptly pulled out of the Russian Soyuz capsule, which landed on its side, which is not unusual. Williams wore a black baseball cap while seated outside and talking on the phone. Ovchinin clutched a stuffed doll his daughter gave him as a mascot that went into space with him.

They were then carried to a medical tent for routine tests to see how they adjust to gravity, including checking to see how they could stand.

The trio undocked from the space station nearly three and a half hours before touchdown in hazy sunshine with a comfortable welcome home temperature around 66 degrees (19 degrees Celsius) about 90 miles (145 kilometers) southeast of Zhezkazgan in Kazakhstan. They landed thanks to a large orange and white parachute and last second engine firings. NASA spokesman Dan Huot called it a "picturesque landing" on a

picture-perfect day.

The three conducted experiments aboard the space station. Williams set the U.S. record last month for most time spent in space. He beat the previous record set by Scott Kelly during his year in orbit. The capsule contained air samples returned from the first inflatable module deployed in orbit.

The world record is held by Russian Gennady Padalka at 879 days in space. Thirteen Russians have more time in space than Williams.

"Everything went very smoothly, very normally," NASA spokesman Rob Navias said. (AP)

Asia

Pledging US help, Obama says Laos living in 'shadow of war'

VIENTIANE, Laos (AP)—Acknowledging the dark aftershocks of the Vietnam War, President Barack Obama paid tribute Wednesday to survivors maimed by some 80 million unexploded bombs America dropped on Laos decades ago and pledged U.S. help to finally clean them up.

Touring a rehabilitation center in Vientiane, Obama said the U.S. had a “profound moral and humanitarian obligation” to work to prevent more bloodshed from the remnants of the U.S. bombardment. He touted his administration’s move to double spending on ordnance cleanup to roughly \$90 million over three years.

“For the last four decades, Laotians have continued to live under the shadow of war,” Obama said. “The war did not end when the bombs stopped falling.”

Some 20,000 people have been killed or wounded since the war ended, Obama said after viewing displays of small rusted grenades and photos of a child missing his foot. He insisted those were “not just statistics,” but reminders of the heavy toll inflicted by war—“some of them unintended.”

“I’m inspired by you,” he told one survivor, Thoummy Silamphan, who uses a prosthetic after losing a hand to one of the bombs.

Half a century ago, the United States turned Laos into history’s most heavily bombed country, dropping some 2 million tons of ordnance in a covert, nine-year chapter of the Vietnam War. The first U.S. president to set foot in Laos while in office, Obama lamented that many Americans remain unaware of the “painful legacy” left behind.

The \$90 million is a relatively small sum for the U.S. but a significant investment for a small country in one of the poorer corners of the world. Obama sought to put a human face on the issue by meeting Wednesday with survivors of bombs that America dropped.

Asian club replete with strongmen welcomes ‘Duterte Harry’

VIENTIANE, Laos (AP)—As bodies continue to pile up in his war on illegal drugs, the Philippine president is making waves at his first summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations where he joins a diverse cast of leaders, including some who have found themselves in the crosshairs of human rights watchdogs.

Rodrigo Duterte would fit right in, critics say, and even steal the show.

As president, Duterte brings a long-blemished rights record into the 10-nation ASEAN bloc, which has struggled with internal strife due to its unwieldy collective of dictatorships, authoritarian states, a monarchy and fledgling democracies since its founding nearly half a

century ago as an Asian bulwark against communism.

“For most ASEAN leaders, Duterte represents a throwback to an uglier and more brutal form of Asian state, which taints ASEAN efforts to market itself as an increasingly progressive, modernizing trade block with a focus on trade data, rather than daily police-killing body counts,” said Philip Kine of New York-based Human Rights Watch.

Once a government prosecutor who fought outlaws and insurgents, Duterte was a longtime mayor of southern Davao city, where he started to build a name for his deadly anti-crime campaign—he was nicknamed “Duterte Harry” after Clint Eastwood’s Dirty Harry movie character. Since he took

office as president on June 30, his crackdown on suspected drug dealers and users has left more than 2,000 people dead. More than 600,000 others, mostly drug addicts, have surrendered apparently for fear of being gunned down.

“That dynamic means that Duterte can expect his most meaningful face-time in Laos with other ASEAN embarrasments such as Cambodia’s dictator Hun Sen, representatives of Thailand’s military junta and his authoritarian Laotian hosts,” Kine said. He can rely on these leaders to lend him a sympathetic ear for “his grotesque justifications of abuse of rule of law and state-sanctioned extrajudicial violence as the price of a ‘secure’ society,” he said.

efforts to hold peace talks between Thailand’s government and Muslim separatist insurgents who have wreaked havoc across the country’s southernmost provinces since 2004, at a cost of more than 6,000 lives. Other recent attacks have included bombings across seven provinces popular with tourists that killed four people, and an explosive detonated on a rail line that derailed a train car and killed a railway worker.

Australian man dies after shark attack in New Caledonia

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Marine authorities say an Australian man has died after a large shark attacked him while he was kitesurfing in New Caledonia, a French island territory in the Pacific Ocean. The 50-year-old man had fallen from his board into the water on Tuesday afternoon near the reef of Koumac lagoon when the shark bit deep into his right thigh, said Maritime Rescue Coordination Center Director Nicolas Renaud. He said the man had arrived Sunday for a vacation that was due to last about 10 days and had booked a cruise on a sailing vessel so he could do some kitesurfing. Renaud said the crew from the sailing catamaran witnessed the attack and were able to drag the man back on board and administer first aid, but he later died.

World

UNICEF says 28M children uprooted by global conflict



AP
In this June 19, 2015 file photo, a Syrian refugee child walks at a refugee camp in Suruc, on the Turkey-Syria border.

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Some 28 million children around the globe have been driven from their homes by violent conflict, with nearly as many abandoning their homes in search of a better life, according to a UNICEF report released Tuesday.

The report found that while children make up about a third of the world’s population as of 2015, they accounted for nearly half of all refugees, with the number of child refugees having dou-

bled in the last decade.

“What’s important is that these children on the move are children. And they should be treated as children,” said Ted Chaiban, UNICEF Director of Programs in Geneva. “They deserve to be protected. They need access to services, such as education.”

According to the report, there were 10 million child refugees and one million child asylum-seekers, whose status had not yet

been determined. The remaining 17 million children displaced by conflict remained within their home countries’ borders.

The report said 45 percent of the children refugees came from just two countries: Syria and Afghanistan.

Increasingly, these children are traveling alone, with 100,000 unaccompanied minors applying for asylum in 78 countries in 2015, three times the number in 2014, the report found. Because these children often lack documents, they are especially vulnerable.

The report estimates another 20 million children are migrants, driven from their homes by poverty and gang violence among other things.

Refugee and migrant children face a host of risks including drowning during sea crossings, malnourishment, dehydration, kidnapping, rape and murder. When they arrive in other countries they often face discriminations and xenophobia, the report stated.

Frenchwoman who got world’s 1st face transplant dies at 49

PARIS (AP)—Isabelle Dinoire, a Frenchwoman who received the world’s first partial face transplant, has died more than a decade after a complex and daring operation that set the stage for dozens of similar transplants worldwide. She was 49.

Her life with a new face was a miracle to many, but was also marred by infections, kidney trouble and hypertension linked to her treatment. In announcing her death Tuesday, the Amiens University Hospital in northern France said Dinoire’s experience “illustrates perfectly the high stakes of face transplants.”

The hospital said Dinoire died in April, but didn’t announce it until Tuesday because the family wanted to mourn privately.

After being severely disfigured by her pet Labrador, Dinoire was given a new nose, chin and lips in a ground-breaking, 15-hour operation in 2005 led by doctors Bernard Devauchelle and Jean-Michel Dubernard in the Amiens hospital. When she first appeared in public with her new face four months later, her speech was slurred and a scar clearly visible—but the fact that she could speak to reporters of having

a “face like everyone else” and almost smile was seen as a medical breakthrough.

However, despite what the hospital described as a “remarkable” transplant, she had health issues for years linked to the medication she took to keep her body from rejecting the new face, and underwent new surgery in January.

Soon afterward, doctors discovered a malign tumor, according to Tuesday’s statement. Independent doctors who followed her case said she had lung cancer that might have been linked to her treatment, or to her lifetime of smoking.

EU observers note anomaly in Gabon voter turnout results

LIBREVILLE, Gabon (AP)—The European Union observation mission in Gabon said Tuesday it noted an anomaly in voting results from the president’s stronghold province that pushed him over the edge to win reelection by a slim margin.

Election commission results showed President Ali Bongo Ondimba beat opposition contender Jean Ping in Gabon’s Aug. 27 presidential vote by 1.57 percentage points. Clashes quickly broke

out in this oil-rich Central African country after the results were announced last week, with opposition supporters claiming fraud and burning buildings and looting stores.

Ping on Friday declared himself the rightful winner of the vote.

The EU observer commission said in addition to not having full access to all districts within Bongo’s stronghold Haut-Ogooue province, voter turnout there appeared inflated.

According to the electoral commission, there was a 99.93 percent turnout in that province, with 95 percent voting in favor of Bongo.

The EU noted that such a number means only 47 people in the area wouldn’t have voted.

“An analysis of the number of non-voters and blank and spoiled ballots reveals an obvious anomaly in the final results,” it said, adding that confidence in the results is compromised.

ASIAN BRIEFS

PH govt defends decision on hero burial for Marcos

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Lawyers for the Philippine government and heirs of Ferdinand Marcos say the late dictator is qualified to be buried at a heroes’ cemetery as a former president and war veteran despite opposition from his regime’s victims. Solicitor General Jose Calida defended President Rodrigo Duterte’s directive to allow Marcos’ burial at the military-run Heroes’ Cemetery at the resumption Wednesday of Supreme Court hearings on the victims’ petitions against the burial. Calida said that the cemetery is not a national pantheon, and that its name is a misnomer because there is no standard or body defining what a hero is, and burying Marcos there will not confer him the title of a hero. Marcos was ousted in a 1986 “people power” revolt and died in exile in Hawaii in 1989.

Bombing Thailand’s south kills 3, including 4-year-old girl

BANGKOK (AP)—A bomb exploded outside a school in southern Thailand on Tuesday, killing three people, including a man and his 4-year-old daughter, whom he was dropping off for kindergarten. The incident was the latest in a series of attacks that coincide with ef-

Environment

Feds take most humpback whales off endangered species list

By **AUDREY McAVOY**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU (AP)—Federal authorities took most humpback whales off the endangered species list Tuesday, saying their numbers have recovered through international efforts to protect the giant mammals.

Known for their acrobatic leaps from the sea and complex singing patterns, humpback whales were nearly hunted to extinction for their oil and meat by industrial-sized whaling ships well through the middle of the 20th century. But the species has been bouncing back since an international ban on commercial whaling took effect in 1966.

The moratorium on whaling remains in effect, despite the new classifications.

The National Marine Fisheries Service said it first had

evidence to indicate there were 14 distinct populations of humpback whales around the world. It then said nine of these populations have recovered to the point where they no longer need Endangered Species Act Protections. These include whales that winter in Hawaii, the West Indies and Australia.

Before, the agency classified all humpback whales as one population. They had been listed as endangered since 1970.

"Today's news is a true ecological success story," Eileen Sobeck, assistant administrator for fisheries at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, said in a statement.

The whales will continue to be protected under other federal laws, including the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Vessels will continue to have to stay a specific distance away from humpback whales in Hawaii and Alaska waters.



In this August 25, 2012 photo, boaters watch a humpback whale breach off the coast of Gloucester, Mass. Federal authorities are taking most humpback whales off the endangered species list.

A Hawaii fishermen's group that petitioned for delisting three years ago said it was happy with the decision.

"We just saw a lot of whales. So we thought this is a success

in ocean management and we wanted to point that out to the world—that things are good with whales in Hawaii," said Phil Fernandez, president of the Hawaii Fishermen's Alliance

for Conservation and Tradition.

An estimated 11,000 humpback whales breed in Hawaii waters each winter and migrate to Alaska to feed during the summer, the fish-

eries service said.

But an environmentalist group said the protections should stay in place.

"These whales face several significant and growing threats, including entanglement in fishing gear, so ending protections now is a step in the wrong direction," Kristen Monsell, an attorney with the Center for Biological Diversity, said in a statement.

Humpbacks that breed in Central America in the winter and feed off California and the Pacific Northwest in the summer are among those that will remain on the endangered list.

Marta Nammack, the fisheries service's Endangered Species Act listing coordinator, said that's because the population is estimated at only about 400 whales. These whales also face threats from vessel collisions and getting entangled in fishing gear, she said.

By **ANN M. SIMMONS**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

As the congress of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources begins Thursday in Hawaii, environmental policymakers and conservation experts will discuss managing the environment, protecting wildlife and how best to chart the direction of conservation efforts.

High on the agenda is the pangolin.

A largely unknown creature, the pangolin holds the undesirable title of being the most-poached and illegally trafficked mammal in the world. Scientists estimate that more than 1 million have been killed in the last decade.

Q: What is a pangolin?

A: They are burrowing mammals covered in protective overlapping scales made of keratin, the same protein that forms human hair and fingernails, according to Save-Pangolins.org, an online group that raises global awareness of pangolins and the efforts to save them from extinction. They are solitary and nocturnal, and very little research has been conducted about their daily lives.

Found in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, there are eight species of pangolin, and they vary in weight and color, ranging from yellowish brown to dark brown. They feed on ants and termites excavated from the earth using their extraordinarily long and sticky tongues and elongated nails.

They often are referred to

as being scaly anteaters, but they are not part of the anteater family, said Jeff Flocken, North American director for the International Union for Conservation of Nature. "They have no relatives on the planet."

Q: Why are pangolins prized, and how great is the threat to them?

Pangolins are commercially poached because their scales can be used in traditional medicine, as fashion accessories and eaten as a high-end cuisine.

"The threat is significant and escalating," said Flocken, who also is a member of the IUCN Pangolin Specialist Group.

It's impossible to know how many pangolins exist, environmentalists have said, but "due to the high demand for consumption, they are disappearing," Flocken said.

Pangolins most likely have vanished in China and are fast disappearing from Vietnam, Thailand and other parts of Southeast Asia, wildlife experts said. In Africa, illegal trafficking is rapidly depleting their population.

The demand for pangolin in Asia has grown with the rise of the middle class and increasing affluence in countries such as China, experts said.

"Anything that is really rare and exotic is desirable. It's a symbol of wealth," said Crawford Allan, senior director of Traffic, a wildlife-trade monitoring network that works to

ensure that trade in wild plants and animals poses no threat to nature conservation. "Anything seen to be delicacy is now in vogue."

Q: Who are the culprits?

The poachers range from independent trappers to crime syndicates, and their level of destruction is staggering, wildlife experts said.

There have been 11,000 pangolins trafficked in the past three months, according to data collected by the IUCN. For example, in June, authorities in Hong Kong confiscated 4.4 tons of pangolin scales hidden in cargo labeled "sliced plastics" from Cameroon.

The haul was estimated to involve between 1,100 and 6,600 African pangolins, and was valued at around \$1.25 million on the black market, according to IUCN Director General Inger Andersen. It was one of the largest seizures of pangolin scales, Andersen said in a statement in June.

In July, Hong Kong officials seized more than 10 tons of pangolin scales in shipping containers coming from Nigeria and Ghana. And in August, Indonesian authorities confiscated more than 650 pangolin bodies hidden in freezers at a home on the island of Java, according to media reports.

Lisa Hywood, founder of the Tikki Hywood Trust, a Zimbabwe-based conservation nonprofit that rescues, rehabilitates and releases pangolins, said her group had res-

cued 97 pangolins in the past three years. Five years ago, the rescue rate was maybe one a year, she said.

Last year, 84 pangolin poachers were arrested in Zimbabwe; of those, 47 were convicted and sentenced to nine years in prison, Hywood said.

Although not a significant consumer of pangolin products, the U.S. is not immune to illicit trafficking of the animal.

Statistics confirmed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service show that 30,000 products made from pangolins were seized coming into the U.S. in the last decade.

An agency spokesperson said the products were predominantly "manufactured medicinal items that are labeled to contain pangolin as an ingredient," but the import of such products is illegal without a permit.

"If this level of industrial-scale illegal extraction and trafficking does not abate, pangolins could pretty soon be on the brink of extinction," said Allan, the wildlife trafficking and trade expert.

Q: What's being done to protect pangolins?

A: Pangolins are listed under Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which includes "species not necessarily threatened with extinction," but may become so without trade restrictions.

Many states in Africa and

Asia have laws prohibiting the capture and trade of pangolins, but the laws are not always enforced.

On Wednesday, a coalition of conservation groups passed a motion calling for all eight pangolin species to receive the most stringent international protection available, a move that essentially would ban all international commercial trade and ramp up enforcement.

The motion also appeals for more support and understanding of the pangolin. A decision is expected later this month in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Conservation groups also have submitted a technical science and trade petition to Fish and Wildlife requesting that all species of pangolins be listed as endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. So far, only one species, the Temminck's ground pangolin of Africa, is on that list.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service also has launched the Mentor-Progress on Pangolins fellowship program. Based in Yaounde, Cameroon, it is training a team of early-career Central African and Asian conservation practitioners to champion the conservation of pangolins in Central Africa.

"You can pour as much money as you want into enforcement, but so long as the demand is still there and the consumer market is there and the price is so high, the criminal networks will always find a way to poach animals and get these stolen gems of nature

to the black market," said Allan, the wildlife specialist.

Q: Where can pangolins be seen in the U.S.?

A: Pangolins do not typically fare well in captivity, conservationists said.

The San Diego Zoo is the only accredited zoo facility in the United States with a pangolin exhibit, according to zoo officials.

As Rick Schwartz, an ambassador for San Diego Zoo Global recalls, a crime in 2007 involving an illegal shipment of pangolins led to the zoo being entrusted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to care for eight pangolins.

"Some of them were in such bad shape that many passed way within the first few days," Schwartz said. "We were able to keep one male and one female alive."

The female died around five years ago. That left the zoo with just the male, a white-bellied tree pangolin they named Baba.

Zoo officials don't know his age, but he weighs around 5.5 pounds. They created a special habitat for him, mimicking the warm and humid environment of the African equatorial rainforest, where his species is found.

Nutritionists make a specially researched high-fiber blend of ground-up insectivore pellets and liquid for Baba, who officials say has been a popular attraction at the zoo.

"We have people who travel to the zoo just to see it," Schwartz said. "Most people don't even think they're real."

Life & Style

Study finds inequality unchanged in Hollywood

By JAKE COYLE
AP FILM WRITER

Despite widespread attention over diversity in the movie business, a new study finds that little is changing in Hollywood for women, minorities, LGBT people and others who continue to find themselves on the outside of an industry where researchers say inequality is “the norm.”

A report to be released Wednesday by the Media, Diversity and Social Change Initiative at the University of Southern California’s Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism offers a stark portrait of Hollywood’s feeble to nonexistent progress in eradicating what researchers call “pervasive and systematic” problems in inclusiveness in front of and behind the camera.

Since 2007, USC has analyzed the demographic make-up of the actors, directors, writers and more from each year’s 100 most popular films. Its latest addition adds data from 2015’s top films, but finds little change.

For example, 31.4 percent



The photo provided by Universal Pictures shows, from left, Tyrese Gibson as Roman, Michelle Rodriguez as Letty, Paul Walker as Brian, and Chris “Ludacris” Bridges as Tej, in the film, “Furious 7,” directed by James Wan.

of speaking characters in the analyzed films were female in 2015—roughly the same number as in 2007. That’s a ratio of 2.2 men for every single woman.

Characters identified as lesbian, gay or transgender accounted for less than 1 percent of all speaking parts, or 32

out of 4,370 characters studied. That was a slight increase from 19 portrayals in 2014. After finding zero transgender characters in 2014, researchers could pinpoint one in 2015.

From 2007 to 2015, the study finds no significant change in the percentage of black (12.2 percent), Latino

(5.3 percent) or Asian (3.9 percent) characters in the most popular films.

Off screen, of the 107 directors of 2015 films, four were black or African American and six were Asian or Asian American. Just eight were women, still the most since 2008.

“We’re seeing entrenched

inequality,” Stacy L. Smith, a USC professor and the study’s lead author, said in an interview. “Whether we’re studying gender, race, ethnicity, LGBT or characters with disabilities, we’re really seeing exclusionary forces leaving out anybody that’s not a straight, white, able-bodied man. Despite all the chatter and all the activism and all the press attention, it’s another year where the status quo has been maintained.”

USC researchers stressed that the study’s results didn’t just offer a portrait of inequality, but captured the invisibility of many from American popular cinema. Hollywood, the study concludes, is “an epicenter of cultural inequality.”

Issues of exclusion and gender gaps have gained more attention in recent years following two straight seasons of all-white acting nominees at the Oscars and leaked studio emails from Sony Pictures that suggested evidence of disparity in salaries between male and female stars.

The fallout has led the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences to diversify its membership. Some have individually taken action; TV producer Ryan Murphy in February launched a foundation to diversify the directors of his shows. Last month, even Michelle Obama spoke of the importance “for the world to see different images of each other.”

On view at Toronto Film Festival: The future of movies

NEW YORK (AP)—Prophecy abounds at the Toronto International Film Festival. Pundits pronounce Oscar guarantees. Buzz, the most cherished commodity at the festival, is measured and speculated on like stock prices.

But this year’s festival, teaming with diversity on screen and behind the camera, stuffed to the gills with not just more than 300 films (138 of them premieres) but virtual reality and even a smattering of television, might just offer a broader vision of what’s to come in movies.

“If you want to see the future of film, you need to come to Toronto this year,” says Cameron Bailey, artistic director of the festival. “It feels like the range of the lineup in terms of the diversity of the stories that are being told and the storytellers that are telling them, the introduction of new technology, like the VR lineup we have, the way that the festival has pretty smoothly integrated television and long-form storytelling. All of those things, I think, are where film is headed.”

It may be an optimistic portrait of cinematic future put forth by the 41st Toronto Film Festival, but the strength of festival lineup lends a sense of inevitability. The festival kicks off Thursday with the premiere of Antoine Fuqua’s “Magnificent Seven” remake, starring Denzel Washington and Chris Pratt.

“The industry can only benefit from seeing more diverse everything. Not just in front of the

camera, behind the camera, executive positions,” says Fuqua, the director of “Training Day.” “It’s good for everyone because movies are a shared experience. People go to the theater and we all get to laugh and have fun with each other.”

The movies at TIFF offer a compendium of the fall movie season, squeezed into a 10 day blitz. Many of them are awards-hopefuls, including most of the top films from Cannes, Venice and Telluride. And after a lackluster summer rife with blockbuster disappointment, the distance between seasons has never felt so vast.

No films come into Toronto with more heat than Damien Chazelle’s Los Angeles musical “La La Land,” starring Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling, and Barry Jenkins’ “Moonlight,” a striking coming-of-age tale of a gay black man. Both have drawn enthusiastic raves out of Telluride and Venice in recent days.

Of the many TIFF debuts, few match the size of Peter Berg’s “Deepwater Horizon,” a visceral, big-budget rendering of the oil rig disaster, made with its own enormous mock rig.

Also on tap are courses of science-fiction (Denis Villeneuve’s alien communication thriller “Arrival”), fantasy (J.A. Bayona’s emotional “A Monster Calls,” a drama filled with equal parts wonder and grief), and comedy (Kelly Fremon Craig’s witty and honest coming-of-age movie “The Edge of Seventeen”).

Looking at Cosby’s past for a pattern of drugging, sex abuse

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP)—They were models and aspiring actresses. One was a flight attendant. Another was a masseuse.

Thirteen women who say Bill Cosby drugged and sexually assaulted them over the years have agreed to testify against him in the only criminal case stemming from his alleged behavior.

Prosecutors say the women’s experiences show that Cosby is a serial offender and that the one case he’s charged in—an alleged assault at his suburban Philadelphia home in 2004—is part of a pattern of abuse dating to the 1960s.

One elder said she lost consciousness after Cosby poured her a few glasses of champagne only to wake up naked and sore. Another said she felt woozy and had blurred vision after he insisted she take a couple of pills.

A judge hasn’t said if he’ll allow the women to take the stand.

If he does, their testimony could widen the scope of the 79-year-old Cosby’s trial, slated for June, into a close examination of his treatment of women over the last six decades—from his time as a fledgling comedian to his

worldwide fame as a TV sitcom star dubbed “America’s Dad.”

Cosby’s criminal case involves a single encounter with former Temple University employee Andrea Constand, who told police he gave her three unmarked pills and then molested her as she drifted in and out of consciousness.

Prosecutors said they reviewed accusations made by 50 Cosby accusers and found 13 who said they were also drugged or intoxicated by Cosby before he molested them. Many of those women came forward after Pennsylvania authorities reopened the Constand case last year.

One of the prospective witnesses, then an aspiring actress, said Cosby assaulted her at a home near Reno, Nevada in 1984 after telling her agent and her parents that he wanted to mentor her.

The woman said Cosby told her he wanted to see her act and handed her a script for an intoxicated character and an alcoholic beverage he wanted her to “sip on.” The

woman says she soon lost consciousness and awoke naked as Cosby forced his penis into her mouth.

Another woman said Cosby drugged and sexually assaulted her in the late 1960s after befriending her and acting as a mentor to her 9-year-old son. The woman, a restaurant worker in the San Francisco area, said she lost consciousness after Cosby poured her a glass of wine and gave her a headache pill and woke up wearing only her underwear.

Cosby’s lawyers say they’ll oppose any testimony from other accusers.

They suggest he’s a wealthy target for the many women he’s met during decades as an A-list celebrity.

Defense lawyer Angela Agrusa told reporters Tuesday that the accusers have been “paraded” before the press by lawyer Gloria Allred and others, without their accounts of abuse being investigated.

“We have seen a barrage of new accusers claiming, ‘Me too,’” Agrusa said.

Cosby spokesman Andrew Wyatt brought race into the

equation, saying Allred and others have trampled on Cosby’s civil rights.

Many of the accusers, including Constand, are white.

Allred rejected Wyatt’s accusations, saying Cosby’s becoming desperate and that several accusers she represents are black.

Allred also represents Judy Huth, who filed a civil lawsuit accusing Cosby of underage sexual abuse.

She said the case is not about racial bias, but whether Cosby “has committed acts of gender sexual violence.”

It’s unclear if any of Allred’s clients are among the 13 women prosecutors are seeking to call as witnesses against Cosby.

Also Tuesday, Cosby’s lawyers asked a judge to block prosecutors from using a 2005 telephone conversation at trial because Constand’s mother recorded it without his permission.

Cosby was in California when he called Constand’s mother at her Canadian home, but his lawyers argued Pennsylvania’s two-party consent law on recording—not a more lax Canadian law—should apply since he’s being prosecuted there.



Cosby

Greta Van Susteren out as Fox News host

NEW YORK (AP)—Greta Van Susteren has abruptly quit after 14 years as a prime-time anchor at Fox News Channel, saying that Fox “has not felt like home to me for a few years.”

Starting Tuesday, she’s be-

ing temporarily replaced in her 7 p.m. ET time slot by Fox veteran Brit Hume, at least through the election.

Word of the surprise shake-up in what has been cable TV news’ most stable and successful lineup was announced only

minutes after the settlement of former Fox anchor Gretchen Carlson’s harassment lawsuit against deposed Fox News chief Roger Ailes.

Van Susteren, in a Facebook post, did not say what she meant by Fox News not feeling like home anymore. She had spoken on Ailes’ behalf in an interview with The Daily Beast in the immediate aftermath of Carlson’s lawsuit, saying she had known nothing of the alleged behavior, but later clarified those remarks, saying she didn’t mean to defend or condemn her former boss. The Washington-based lawyer said Tuesday that she took advantage of a contractual clause allowing her to leave and since it had a time limitation, she could not wait.

She did not immediately return requests for comment.



Fox did not explain Van Susteren’s exit, although a person close to the situation who spoke on condition of anonymity described it as a financial disagreement.

AP
In a June 19, 2013 file photo, Greta Van Susteren of FOX News Channel listens as Gary Pruitt, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Associated Press, speaks at the National Press Club (NPC) in Washington.

Van Susteren, who came to Fox from CNN after establishing herself among the commentators on the O.J. Simpson trial, said on Facebook that she hoped to continue her career in broadcasting.

She held down the 10 p.m. time slot at Fox for many years, but her “On the Record” show was switched to 7 p.m. when Fox wanted to make room in prime time for Megyn Kelly. Kelly took over at 9 p.m. and Sean Hannity was moved to 10 p.m.

Rihanna launches new fashion collection for Puma

NEW YORK (AP)—Rihanna says her new collection for Puma was inspired by Japanese street culture.

The pop star launched the autumn/winter 2016 Fenty Puma by Rihanna line on Tuesday at Foot Locker in New York City.

She says she remembers exploring fashion during her first trip to Japan years ago

and leaving in awe.

Her edgy collection, mostly in black and white, includes loose sweaters and pants, dresses, skirts, sneakers and sneaker heels.

Fans screamed as Rihanna entered the venue, singing her songs that played in the background. She says she designed the line for her feverish fans.

‘Jersey Boys’ to close on Broadway in January after 11 years

NEW YORK (AP)—“Jersey Boys,” the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical based on the Four Seasons’ career and harmonies, has finally hit a sour note—it’s closing in January after 11 years.

Producers said Tuesday the show will hold its final performance on Jan. 15 after 4,642 shows at the August Wilson Theatre. It is the 12th-longest running show in Broadway history.

The musical, which opened in 2005, tells the story of Bob Gaudio, Frankie Valli, Tommy DeVito and Nick Massi and features 20 Four Seasons songs, including “Sherry,” “Big Girls Don’t Cry,” “Can’t Take My Eyes Off You” and “Oh, What a Night.”

It won the Tony for best musical, a Grammy Award

for best cast album and has been seen by over 13 million people across the world and grossed over \$2 billion worldwide and been seen by an estimated 24 million people in 11 countries. A film adaptation by Clint Eastwood came out in 2015 but failed to live up to the buzz.

Michael David, a “Jersey Boys” producer, said in 2011 that the show’s popularity is like a theatrical lightning strike—unpredictable and hard to replicate. It has attracted families and couples, fans of the music, people drawn to the true story and those who like the rags-to-riches tale. And it attracted men, an elusive Broadway target.

“I can’t think of a show that has attracted and surprised men like this does—men who

wouldn’t be caught dead in a Broadway show,” he said. “And they return. That’s a lot of our business: people who bring back someone else to see it again.”

The show has in the past few years seen a gradual decline in ticket sales. Last week, it pulled in about \$540,000 over eight performances, a typical haul for the past few months but far less than its \$1,150,000 potential. The last time it broke the \$600,000 mark was April.

The show continues to tour throughout North America and the United Kingdom. “Dancing with the Stars” star Mark Ballas will be the final actor to take on the iconic role of Frankie Valli, making his Broadway debut in the show on Oct. 18.

Brooks to intro ‘Young Frankenstein,’ talk about Wilder

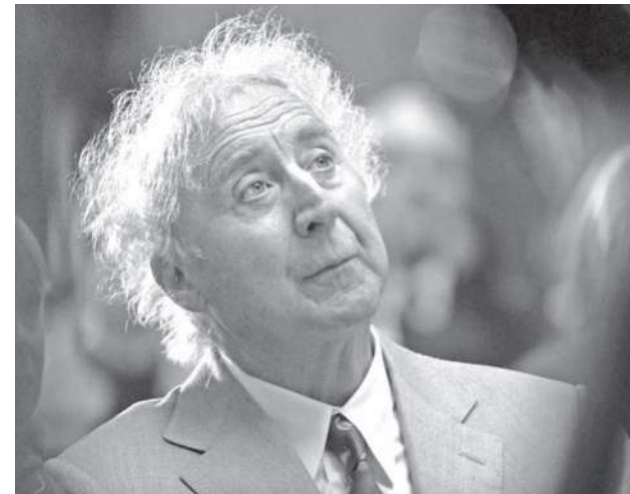
LOS ANGELES (AP)—“Young Frankenstein” will come alive in theaters once again on Oct. 5, with a live introduction from writer-director Mel Brooks, who will pay tribute to the classic spoof’s late star Gene Wilder. The intro will be broadcast from the 20th Century Fox Lot in 500 theaters nationwide, according to an announcement from Fathom Events Tuesday.

In addition to touring the studio lot, where much of the movie was filmed, Brooks is expected reminisce about his friend and collaborator Wilder, who died last Sunday from complications from Alzheimer’s disease.

“Young Frankenstein” is one of Wilder’s most fondly

remembered films. The announcement comes on the heels of AMC Theaters bringing other Wilder fa-

vorites “Blazing Saddles” and “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory” back to theaters this past weekend.



AP
In this April 9, 2008, file photo, actor Gene Wilder listens as he is introduced to receive the Governor’s Awards for Excellence in Culture and Tourism at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford, Conn.

Wife meticulous grooming becomes troubling obsession

DEAR ABBY: My wife has always been well groomed, with an obsessive interest in her fingernails and toenails. Every three or four days, she spends an hour trimming them.

Recently, I discovered that she has been keeping the nail trimmings. She actually has three large plastic containers full. When I confronted her, she claimed it soothes her to see her “collection.” Now she has begun openly displaying them inside a glass table lamp.

I’m afraid she needs professional help. What do you think I should do?

NAILING IT

DEAR NAILING: Your wife appears to suffer from a form of OCD—a hoarding disorder. (Are nail clippings the only items she can’t let go of?) Overcoming her compulsion may take professional help and possibly medication. Start by discussing this with your doctor. In the meantime, because her display bothers you, ask her to keep the lamp in a less conspicuous place.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I just bought our first home. It’s in a very nice neighborhood, and the neighbors seem friendly. There’s just one problem. My son, “Abner”—who will soon be 3—goes to bed between 8 and 9 o’clock, and that’s when our neighbor decides it’s time to mow his grass. Getting Abner

to sleep becomes difficult because the man mows right outside our son’s window.

Initially, I didn’t think it was a big deal because the first time he woke Abner up, my son had gone to bed at an unusually early time for him. But last night it happened when Abner went to bed later than his normal bedtime.

We have talked to our neighbors a few times in general. But since we’re new to the neighborhood, I don’t want to cause problems. I don’t know the man’s schedule, but would it be out of line to ask him to mow earlier in the evening?

BEDTIME IN ILLINOIS

DEAR BEDTIME: Not at all. If you explain the problem, your neighbor may be willing to modify his mowing time. However, if he isn’t, then look into the noise ordinances in your community because there may be rules about mowing after—or before—a certain hour.

DEAR ABBY: Recently, my boss told me she had asked me to do something, but I am 100 percent positive that she didn’t. I don’t feel like I can contradict her because I’m afraid it would make me look bad. It has happened only once or twice in the last few months, but what should I do if it continues? I don’t want my employee reviews to suffer because of it. Please tell me how to handle it.

AT A LOSS IN FLORIDA

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



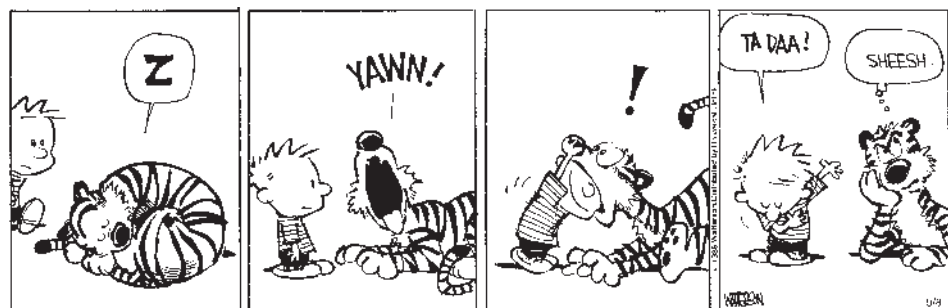
DEAR AT A LOSS: I wish you had revealed more about your relationship with your boss and mentioned how many people work there. Could she be stressed? Or having problems with her memory? Or could you? If there are more employees than just you, did anyone witness your boss ask you to do what she claimed? If not, and this happens again, you may need to talk to her about it because of your concerns about your work performance.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order “How to Be Popular.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



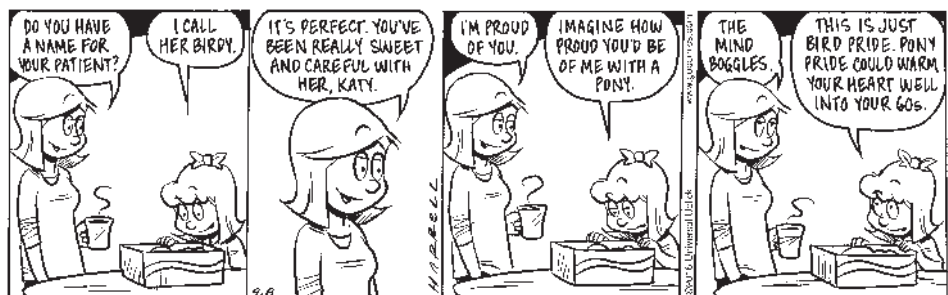
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



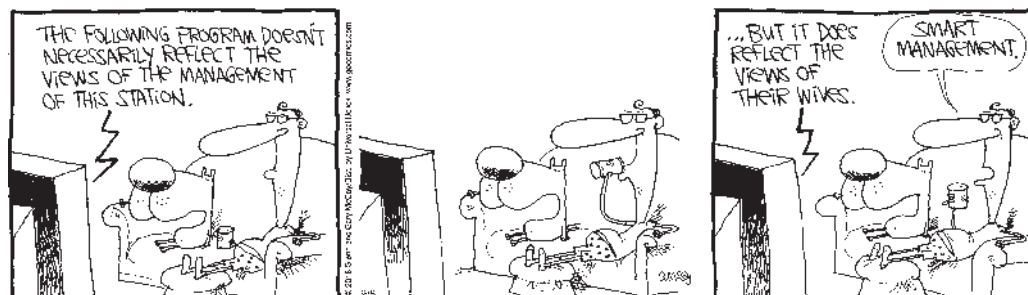
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

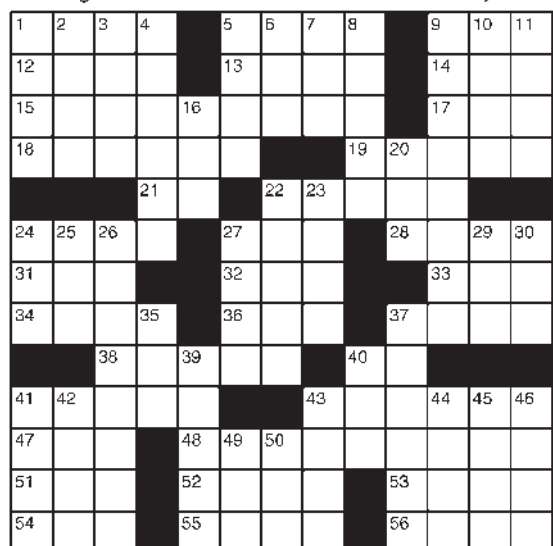
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Kate of "House of Cards" org.
- 5 Rights Recede
- 12 Landed field yield
- 13 Baseball's Ripken
- 15 Over the moon
- 17 Enjoy Aspen
- 18 Be a go-between
- 19 Devour
- 21 Biz abbr.
- 22 Alaskan city
- 24 Prince of India
- 27 Bro or sis
- 28 Slightly
- 31 Dhabi preceder
- 32 Weeding tool
- 33 Altar vow
- 34 Spiders' snares
- 36 "Shoo!"
- 37 Swindle
- 38 Back-of-book list
- 40 Kung —
- DOWN**
- 41 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
- 43 "Truman" actor
- 47 Eggs
- 48 Over the moon
- 51 Cacophony
- 52 Pace
- 53 On in years
- 54 Flight stat
- 55 Christmas
- 56 Theater award
- 4 Ancient Greek region
- 5 Farm fraction
- 6 —
- 7 Singer
- 8 Surprise win
- 9 Over the moon
- 10 Capital of Azerbaijan
- 11 Radar image
- 16 GI entertainers
- 20 Alias abbr.
- 22 Crazy Horse, for one
- 23 "Yeah, right!"
- 24 Like sashimi
- 25 Jurist
- 26 Over the moon
- 27 Monopoly token
- 29 Nabokov novel
- 30 Comic DeLuise
- 35 NBC show since 1975
- 37 Baby's beachwear
- 39 Risky
- 40 Pear-shaped fruit
- 41 Musical finale
- 42 Satan's forte
- 43 Locus
- 44 "Let —" ("Frozen" song)
- 45 Viewed
- 46 Vortex
- 49 Vichy water
- 50 Dogpatch adjective

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 9-8



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Pink, 37; David Arquette, 45; Brooke Burke, 45; Neko Case, 46.

Happy Birthday: It will be difficult to keep things straight this year. Make a point to take notes and document everything to prevent you from being caught in a personal predicament that could upset your domestic life. Leave nothing to chance, and you will be able to turn your plans into a reality. Home improvements and personal changes are favored. Your numbers are 4, 11, 23, 28, 31, 33, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Act on your own behalf. If you don't like the information someone gives you, keep looking for answers and solutions. Take charge of your life and refuse to give in to pressure from someone who is only looking out for his or her own interests. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): When it comes to your health, finances or contractual matters, you will not be thinking clearly. Take a moment to evaluate your situation before you make a decision that may affect you emotionally or physically. Don't take unnecessary risks. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Do your best not to get into an argument. You'll end up in a stalemate if you aren't diplomatic. It's best to keep the peace and offer support rather than criticism. Put your energy into making a positive personal change. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A problem will surface with one of your peers or someone who is in charge of teaching

you new skills, making it difficult for you to do your part effectively. Working on your own will bring the best results. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You don't have to take control or be in the spotlight today. Sit back and watch what others are doing and learn from their experiences. Honing your skills will pay off more than trying to display them prematurely will. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't give in to someone who is trying to bully you into something you don't want to do. Temptation can lead you astray and cost you emotionally, financially and physically if you aren't careful. Saying "no" is an option. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Problems will be apparent, but expanding or diversifying your knowledge and skills will help you bring about positive changes. Nurture an important relationship and make a promise to work together to build a brighter future. ★★★★★

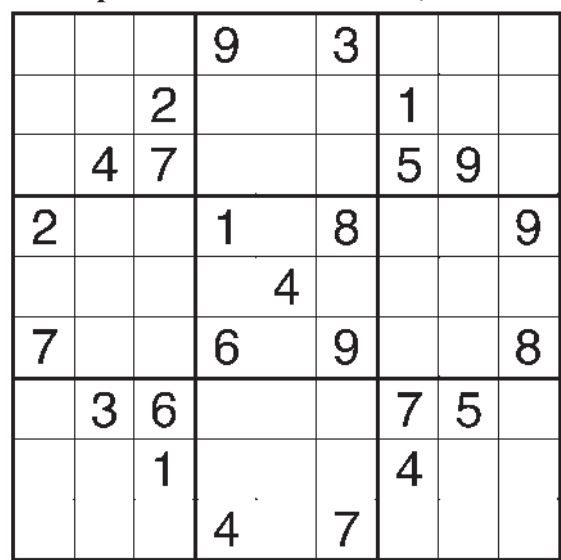
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone will try to influence your train of thought. Be true to yourself and follow through with your plans to avoid dissatisfaction due to your inability to say "no." Don't give in or give up. Do what feels right. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Stick to what you know and do as much as you can from home. The less interaction you have with others, the easier it will be to get things done. Dealing with authority figures or institutions will not be in your best interests. ★★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



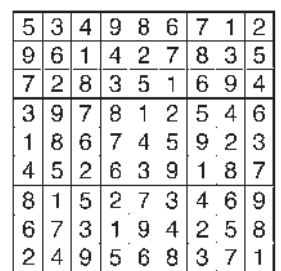
Difficulty Level ★★

9/8

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level: ★★★

5/8

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Let your past experiences lead you in the right direction. Someone will use emotional manipulation to confuse you. Don't defer to anyone who is putting demands on you or trying to get something for nothing. You've got the upper hand. ★★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Opportunity is heading your way. The changes you make will result in a higher income or personal changes that will make you look and feel your best. Take care of your needs, not someone else's responsibilities. ★★★★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't feel like you can't make changes or do things differently. Refuse to be bullied into something that is not in your best interest. Follow the path that will lead to your good fortune, not someone else's. Speak up and help those who are deserving. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are smart, aggressive and productive. You are tenacious and ambiguous. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

GUNS N' ROSES BACK ON TOUR

Solution: 12 letters



©2016 Universal Uclick. www.wonderword.com. Download the Wonderword Game App! 9/8

ACDC, Appetite, Axl Rose, Band, Child, Civil, Dates, Detroit, Dizzy, Duff, East, Estranged, Ferrer, Fortus, Frank, Garden, Heavy Metal, Hudson, Jungle, Lead, Live and Let Die, Love, McKagan, Melissa, Nation, Nice Boys, November, O'Mine, Queen, Rain, Rarities, Reed, Reese, Richard, Rocket, Roses, Saul, Seattle, Slash, Stage, Sweet, Toronto, Tour

Yesterday's Answer: Therapist

To purchase the WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

2 – Accountant/ Bookkeeper, \$6.55/hr. Mail resume to Burger & Comer PC at P.O. Box 504053, Saipan, MP 96950.

Hardt Eye Clinic has an opening for an Accountant - Job Description: Analyze financial statements and prepare financial reports. Perform the accounts receivable function; input and maintain information in the patient master file. Review patients' ledgers and process billing for services rendered. Develop, implement, modify and document record keeping and accounting systems. Assist in the processing of payroll and related reports, filings and disbursements. Assist in the preparation of required monthly, quarterly and annual CNMI and federal tax filing. Develop, maintain, and analyze budgets, preparing period reconciliation reports. Qualification Requirements: Bachelor's Degree from accredited college or university in accounting, finance or related field. Two years of progressive professional-level accounting experience. Computer literate with specialized knowledge in computer programs relating to health care operations (e.g. medical billing, patient electronic records and scheduler) and accounting software. Interested individuals please submit resume to: Emelda M. Ito, Accountant/Personnel In-Charge, Hardt Eye Clinic, Inc. dba Hardt Eye Clinic; Diabetes Education Center located next to Monika's Furniture Beach Road, Chalan Laulau, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; or send by facsimile (670) 235-2033; or by e-mail to hardteye.acctg@gmail.com. WE ARE AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

MGI MANPOWER GROUP INTERNATIONAL

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

15 COMMERCIAL CLEANERS
25 CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

Email resume to mgi.manpower@yahoo.com.
Tel: 1-670-989-8898

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: 234-7859
Fax: 234-5750

Attorney for Interested Party Norman T. Tenorio

**IN THE SUPREME COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**IN RE THE
ESTATE OF**

**CONCEPTION MUNA
MANGLONA,**

Decedent.

**CIVIL ACTION
NO. 97-0307**

**SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND
NOTICE OF HEARING
ON PETITION FOR
DECREE OF PARTIAL
DISTRIBUTION**

**TO: THE SURVIVING HEIRS OF VICENTE
M. MANGLONA, JOSE M. MANGLONA, NICOLAS
M. MANGLONA, and THOMAS M. MANGLONA:**

The foregoing Summons/ Notice of Hearing is served upon you by publication to notify you that on **September 22, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.**, a hearing will be held before the Honorable Joseph N. Camacho on Interested Party Norman T. Tenorio's Petition for Decree of Partial Distribution in the above-styled matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI, Guma Hustisia, on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The attorney for Norman T. Tenorio is Robert T. Torres, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Dated this 26th day of August, 2016

/s/ Clerk of Court

Vacancy Announcement

- (1) **Maintenance** - Atleast high school graduate. A valid driver's license. Ability to use efficiently various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both witten and oral form.
- (1) **Carpenter/Finisher** - Atleast high school graduate. Ability to build and install wooden and metal structures and fixtures. With valid driver's license.
- Submit Applications to:
AYD Services, Inc.
Tel. # 235-7011

WANTED

Cement Laborer

- Cement handling experience preferred.
- Will train motivated individuals
- Wages \$8.25

Apply in person at
Hanson Micronesia Cement Inc.
Tel: 670 322-3333

JVA for YANO ENTERPRISES, INC.
dba: Kinpachi Restaurant

Restaurant Supervisor (2): Must be qualified in restaurant operations, customer service, menu planning, & reservation operations. Must be responsible for the supervision of staff as to dining areas cleanliness in appearance & outside grounds. Ensure any customers issues are addressed immediately and resolved in a manner which exceeds the customer's expectation. Also need to have basic Japanese oral skills. Must have an extensive knowledge of Japanese food products & be able to make orders & preparations.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.

Applicants of positions listed above required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Ultrasound/X-Ray Technician (01)

- At least five years experience or related filed
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology
- Must have over five years experience in electronic health and Practice partner records
- Licensed by the Medical Profession Licesing Board, CNMI
- Flexible with time schedule

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up applications at Health Professional Corporation dba Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit applications will be on September 09, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. For information you can call (670) 234-2901 ext. 128.

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive
Whispering Palms
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel.: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner: John Albert Benavente

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF:
FERNANDO CEPEDA
BENAVENTE,
Aka: "Wandering."**

Decedent.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0176

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON
PETITION FOR LETTERS
OF ADMINISTRATION AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

**Date: Sept. 29, 2016
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Judge: Camacho**

**TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS,
OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE FERNANDO CEPEDA
BENAVENTE OR OF HIS ESTATE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, John Albert Benavente, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Fernando Cepeda Benavente, Decedent. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by John Albert Benavente, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on Sept. 29, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the Decedent or his estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of the first publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Dated this 24th day of August, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court
Deputy Clerk of Court

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Opening Date: September 7, 2016
Closing Date: October 5, 2016

Position: Accounting Clerk
Salary: PL 23/01 – \$16,651.51 to PL 23/05 - \$20,234.11 P/A
(Starting salary will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.)

Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI and austerity holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., **Thursday, September 29, 2016, OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than October 5, 2016, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to officemanager@nmhc.gov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
Corporate Director

WHATZIT Solution: Break into a gallop

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

gal lop

Find today's solution in classified section

**PLACE YOUR
ADVERT HERE!**

For opportunities contact us at
235-6397

Free semis pass for Djokovic as Tsonga pulls out

NEW YORK (AP)—Normally, it takes wins in five full matches to reach a Grand Slam semifinal. Novak Djokovic has made it that far at the U.S. Open by playing only two, because three opponents pulled out of the tournament with injuries.

Djokovic, the No. 1 seed and defending champion, once again needed to put in very little work, advancing to the final four at Flushing Meadows for the 10th consecutive year when No. 9 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga stopped because of a hurt left knee Tuesday night.

The first two sets of their quarterfinal went Djokovic's way, 6-3, 6-2. At the ensuing changeover, Tsonga was visited by a trainer and had his left leg taped below the knee. They played one point to begin the third set: Tsonga double-faulted, then retired from the match.

This came after Djokovic's second-round opponent, Jiri Vesely, withdrew from the tournament with a sore left forearm. And then the man Djokovic was supposed to play in the third round, Mikhail Youzhny, quit after six games and only 31 minutes with a strained left hamstring.

"I put myself in a position again to be one match away from the finals. As tournament progresses, I feel like I'm getting better," Djokovic said. "Of course, this Grand Slam is very unique for me: I never experienced something like this - to have three retirements



on the road to the semifinals."

Tsonga said when the pain came Tuesday, "I knew it was

over for me straightaway."

"It's already tough to play against one of the best tennis

players," Tsonga said, "but when I don't have my knee, I have no chance to come back

from two sets to love." ^{AP}
Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns a shot to Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France during the quarterfinal round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament on Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016, in New York.

from two sets to love."

On Friday, Djokovic will play No. 10 Gael Monfils, who advanced earlier against No. 24 Lucas Pouille, the man who eliminated Rafael Nadal in the fourth round. Playing steadily, and with only a dose of the spectacular, Monfils reached his first major semifinal since 2008 by beating an error-prone Pouille 6-4, 6-3, 6-3 in an all-French quarterfinal.

For all of his deep runs at Flushing Meadows, Djokovic has won only two of his 12 Grand Slam titles at the hard-court tournament, in 2011 and 2015. He's lost in four finals and three semifinals over the past decade.

It's tough to know exactly how well he's playing at the moment, simply because no one has seen him on court all that much lately: less than 6½ hours through five rounds.

After his streak of four consecutive major championships—the first time a man had done that in nearly 50 years—was capped by his initial French Open title, Djokovic was upset in the third round at Wimbledon. He returned to action by winning the Toronto Masters, but since

then, Djokovic lost in the first round of the Rio Olympics while dealing with a sore left wrist that he then cited in skipping the Cincinnati Masters.

Djokovic's right arm was massaged by a trainer in his first- and fourth-round matches at the U.S. Open, so getting all of these free passes hasn't been a bad thing.

"In this stage of the season, considering some physical issues I have had in the last month, month and a half, this was the scenario that I needed and I wished for. I got a lot of days off and recovered my body," Djokovic said. "Right now, I'm feeling very close to the peak. That's the position where I want to be."

And that's a scary thought for Monfils. When Djokovic is at his best, his returns, court coverage and groundstrokes are as it good as it gets in today's game.

Monfils, who turned 30 last week, only once before made it to a Grand Slam semifinal, 8 1/2 years ago in front of a partisan crowd at the French Open. But he has been fantastic during this tournament, winning all 15 sets he's played.

"I love watching Gael. He's one of the few players that I will definitely pay a ticket to watch," Djokovic said. "He's very charismatic. Plays with a smile. Enjoys tennis. Enjoys life."

Pouille quite simply ran out of steam, winding up with just about three times as many unforced errors as Monfils, 44-15. Pouille never had won a U.S. Open match or any match that lasted five sets until last week; his 4-hour-plus win against Nadal on Sunday was his third five-setter in a row.

No one ever has won four consecutive five-setters at a major in the Open era, which dates to 1968.

"Of course," Pouille said, "I was a bit tired today."

All in all, the spectators with tickets for Tuesday did not get much competitive or quality tennis. All four matches were decided in straight sets - or, in the case Djokovic vs. Tsonga, even fewer.

In the first women's quarterfinal, Roberta Vinci fell apart after losing the opening set on a foot fault, allowing No. 2 seed Angelique Kerber to take the last nine games and win 7-5, 6-0. In the other, two-time runner-up Caroline Wozniacki was a 6-0, 6-2 winner against Anastasiya Sevastova, who injured her right ankle in the second game and was never able to get going.

Peyton Manning's successor is a cool cat from Florida



ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — Peyton Manning's successor isn't

Brock Osweiler or Colin Kaepernick or Mark Sanchez, all of whom had better offseason odds than NFL novice Trevor Siemian.

When Broncos GM John Elway declined to overpay Osweiler, Manning's longtime backup bolted to Houston 48 hours after his mentor called it a career. Elway quickly acquired Sanchez from the Eagles but he really had his eyes fixed on Kaepernick, who rejected a pay cut to facilitate a trade from the 49ers to Denver.

So, Elway moved on—and he moved up in the first round of the draft, selecting Paxton Lynch of Memphis, who very well might be the franchise's future.

The present, though, belongs to Siemian, a QB who won the starting job with a

mix of brains and brawn, precision and poise, steadiness and spunk.

The Carolina Panthers will certainly try to unnerve Siemian in his first NFL start Thursday night in the 2016 season opener.

Thing is, nobody at Broncos headquarters has ever seen the 2015 seventh-round pick get rattled.

Not when he was Osweiler's backup for two months last season when Manning was hurt.

Not when he ran the scout team against Denver's destructive defense that brought home the Lombardi Trophy.

Not even when coach Gary Kubiak named him the starter.

"He's the same guy: cool, calm and collected," said wide receiver Emmanuel Sanders. "He's not going to change. He's not going to waver. I know that he wants to show the world, 'Hey, look at this guy out here, No. 13.' I think he can make plays and

make all the throws."

So, just who is Siemian?

He was a high school star in central Florida who could have gone to any number of schools that would have loved that strong right arm that also made him an outstanding third baseman. He chose Northwestern, though, as much for its academics as its athletics.

He played in 44 games for the Wildcats but started just 14—yet still finished as the school's fourth-leading passer.

He tore an ACL in his final college game and that scared away plenty of teams but not the Broncos, who chose him with the 250th overall pick, after which Siemian declared, "I can't think of a better scenario" than to learn from Manning and Osweiler.

By training camp last year he was healthy enough to practice and he quickly showed Elway that he wouldn't be able to slip him through waivers to get him on

the practice squad. He made the 53-man roster and spent the season soaking in all he could from his coaches and colleagues.

"It was a great opportunity for me last year to learn a lot from Brock and Peyton," Siemian said as the Broncos began their offseason program last spring. "At this point, I'm kind of getting antsy to apply some of those things I picked up from those guys."

That, he did.

Siemian had a year's head start in Kubiak's West Coast offense, and he used that advantage to show Elway that his answer at quarterback had been under his nose all along.

Siemian mixed that knowledge with accurate, strong throws and poise under pressure to win his teammates' trust.

Siemian may come off as humdrum in interviews, but he's actually a cutup whose locker room leadership is apparent even on a roster full

Red Sox roll past Padres, gain share of AL East lead



SAN DIEGO
(AP)—Jackie Bradley Jr.

and Chris Young homered and Clay Buchholz pitched 6-plus solid innings as the Boston Red Sox beat the San Diego Padres 5-1 on Tuesday night.

The Red Sox moved into a tie for first place in the AL East with Toronto. The Blue Jays lost 7-6 to the Yankees on Tuesday.

Buchholz (6-10) was making his first start since Aug. 23 as his last three appearances came out of the bullpen. Working exclusively from the stretch, Buchholz allowed a run, eight hits and struck out six in facing the Padres for the first time.

The Red Sox lead the majors in runs but had scored just once in their past two games, both losses. Previous to that in three straight wins, they had collected 35 runs.

Neither team scored in the first three innings or in the last four innings. But the Red Sox notched five runs in the middle innings for their 16th win in their last 25 games.

Yankees 7, Blue Jays 6

In New York, Brett Gardner made a leaping catch at the top of the left-field wall on Justin Smoak's bases-loaded drive for the final out, and the New York Yankees held on during a nervy ninth inning to beat the AL East-leading Toronto Blue Jays.

A scramble September game with October implications seesawed to the last swing, and turned at the end in favor of the Yankees. New York won its third in a row and sent Toronto to its fourth loss in five games.

Astros 4, Indians 3

In Cleveland, Corey Kluber lost for the first time since July 3 after Marwin Gonzalez connected for a three-run homer off Cleveland's ace in the second inning.

Kluber (15-9) had won his previous seven decisions, a span during which he dominated the way he did while winning the Cy Young Award in 2014. But the right-hander had a bad sequence of six batters against the Astros, who have won the first two of four games between the playoff contenders.

Cardinals 9, Pirates 7

In Pittsburgh, Matt Carpenter, Randal Grichuk and Jhonny Peralta all homered off closer Tony Watson with two outs in the ninth inning, helping St. Louis rally past Pittsburgh.

The Cardinals were down to their last strike when Carpenter sent a long drive to right-center to tie it 6-6. Grichuk followed two batters later with a two-run shot off Watson (2-



Boston Red Sox starting pitcher Clay Buchholz works against the San Diego Padres in the first inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016, in San Diego.

error as part of a three-run eighth inning.

Taylor pinch-ran after reliever Jose Ramirez (2-2) walked Ryan Zimmerman. Taylor stole second and, after Danny Espinosa's walk, scored when an off-balance Flowers threw pinch-hitter Ben Revere's bunt attempt well to the left of third baseman Adonis Garcia.

Phillies 4, Marlins 3

In Miami, Adam Morgan snapped his major league-worst streak of nine consecutive losses, Odubel Herrera scored three runs and Philadelphia spoiled Miami slugger Giancarlo Stanton's return.

Morgan (2-9) allowed five hits and one run in six innings.

Ichiro Suzuki hit the first pinch-hit home run of his career, a two-run shot in the eighth for Miami. Stanton was activated from the disabled list about an hour before the game and delivered a pinch-hit single in the fifth for Miami.

Athletics 3, Angels 2

In Oakland, Joey Wendle hit a go-ahead single during a three-run eighth inning and Oakland rallied to beat Los Angeles.

Ryon Healy, whose single broke up starter Ricky Nolasco's bid for a perfect game in the sixth, hit an RBI single before Wendle lined a hit to right to drive in pinch-runner Arismendy Alcantara and Marcus Semien.

4), and Peralta piled on with a solo homer as St. Louis held on to the second wild card in the NL.

Royals 10, Twins 3

In Minneapolis, Kendrys Morales had two home runs, including a three-run blast in Kansas City's seven-run ninth inning.

Morales hit a two-run shot in the first to help the Royals overcome the loss of catcher Salvador Perez, who left the game with a right wrist contusion after he was hit by a pitch in the sixth inning.

White Sox 2, Tigers 0

In Chicago, Jose Abreu hit his fifth homer in seven games, Miguel Gonzalez came off the disabled list to throw 6 1/3 innings of six-hit ball and Chicago cooled off Detroit.

Abreu connected off Matt Boyd (5-3) in the second for his 23rd homer as Chicago got its third win in nine games.

Gonzalez (3-6) struck out four in his first start since Aug. 11 following a groin injury.

Giants 3, Rockies 2

In Denver, Kelby Tomlinson hit a one-out, tiebreaking single in the ninth and San Francisco rallied to beat Colorado.

Javier Lopez (1-2) got one out in the eighth to earn the win. Santiago Casilla pitched the ninth for his 31st save. He got Gerardo Parra to hit into a double play to end the game.

Mets 5, Reds 3

In Cincinnati, Yoenis Cespedes hit the most damaging of New York's four homers, a two-run shot in the seventh

inning, as the Mets rallied for their 13th straight victory over Cincinnati.

The Mets' winning streak is their longest against Cincinnati. The club record against any opponent is 15 straight wins against Pittsburgh in 1986-87.

Curtis Granderson and Jose Reyes had solo shots off Brandon Finnegan. Cespedes connected off Michael Lorenzen (2-1) for his 28th homer. Alejandro De Aza had a pinch-hit homer in the ninth.

Orioles 11, Rays 2

In St. Petersburg, Manny Machado capped a six-run

fourth inning with a grand slam off Jake Odorizzi, leading Baltimore over Tampa Bay.

Odorizzi (9-6) lost for the first time in 10 starts since the All-Star break, giving up seven runs, six hits and three walks over four innings. Machado's slam was set up by two walks, a hit batter and J.J. Hardy's two-run double.

Brewers 12, Cubs 5

In Milwaukee, Jonathan Villar homered to start a five-run first inning against Jason Hammel, and Milwaukee cooled off Chicago.

The NL Central-leading

Cubs had won seven of eight and were 41 games over .500 after winning Monday's series opener.

But Milwaukee rallied from a 1-0 deficit as its first seven batters reached against Hammel (14-8). Villar homered on Hammel's second pitch, Ryan Braun had an RBI single, Domingo Santana singled in two runs and Martin Maldonado added a sacrifice fly.

Nationals 9, Braves 7

In Washington, pinch-runner Michael Taylor scored the go-ahead run on catcher Tyler Flowers' throwing

'Obvious' Ryder Cup picks might only be obvious to a few

NORTON, Mass. (AP)—One week into the Ryder Cup auditions for the captain's picks, Davis Love III should have no trouble identifying the hot player.

Trouble is, Rory McIlroy plays for the other team.

The Deutsche Bank Championship, where McIlroy rediscovered his putting stroke, was the first of two big tournaments that essentially allow Love and the Americans to buy time so they can decide how to use three captain's picks that will be announced Monday.

Love will get a fourth pick after the FedEx Cup ends on Sept. 25, presumably before the boarding door closes on the flight to Hazeltine.

But is this really an audition?

Not according to Phil Mickelson, the senior member of the U.S. team who

serves on the Ryder Cup Task Force.

"I think the picks are fairly obvious," Mickelson said before the first shot was struck at the TPC Boston. "If they're not, or if we get a guy like Billy Horschel who just gets a hot hand and we need that hot hand to give us the best chance to win, then we have that option. For the most part, I think it's fairly obvious who the picks would be without even naming them."

Maybe it's obvious to Mickelson, and perhaps to Love.

But not to everyone. "I can't name them, either," said Steve Stricker, an assistant captain and task force member. "I don't know who they are, I swear. I could put five guys down that are obvious. I don't think I could

do three."

Matt Kuchar would seem logical. He finished 12th in the standings, has the right game for match play because he is rarely out of position, and he likely played his way onto the team with that 63 on the final day to win the bronze medal at the Olympics.

Rickie Fowler makes sense, even though he has never won a match in two Ryder Cup appearances. Fowler is well-liked, he paired nicely with PGA champion Jimmy Walker at Gleneagles and tied for seventh at The Barclays in the final qualifying event. Then again, he squandered a chance to play his way onto the team at Bethpage Black by making a mess of the last four holes. He wound up 11th in points.

After that, the obvious becomes opinions.

Bubba Watson finished at No. 9 in the standings and he is No. 7 in the world. However, the two-time Masters champion hasn't had a top 10 on the PGA Tour in six months. Jim Furyk is under consideration, mainly because he finished at No. 15 in the standings despite missing four months at the start of the year to recover from wrist surgery. He also shot 58. But he didn't make it beyond the second stage of the FedEx Cup playoffs.

J.B. Holmes was No. 10 in the standings. Holmes is a power player and one of the few active Americans to have never been on a losing Ryder Cup team. His only appearance was in 2008 at Valhalla. He went 2-0-1.

That's five options, and there might be more.



Altidore scores twice, US advances with 4-0 win over T&T

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)—Jozy Altidore made U.S. history. So did Christian Pulisic.

Altidore scored twice in a three-minute span of the second half, Sacha Kljestan and Paul Arriola had goals and the United States beat Trinidad and Tobago 4-0 on Tuesday night to reach the final round of qualifying for the 2018 World Cup.

The Americans (4-1-1) finished atop Group C of the semifinal round in the North and Central American and Caribbean region and open the hexagonal on Nov. 11 against Mexico. That match almost certainly will be in Columbus, Ohio, where the U.S. has won four straight qualifiers over El Tri by 2-0 scores.

"No doubt in my mind," coach Jurgen Klinsmann said of the site.

U.S. Soccer Federation President Sunil Gulati later tweeted: "Guerra Fria?"

After U.S. hosts Mexico, it plays four days later at Costa Rica.

Altidore, who missed most of the 2014 World Cup and all of this year's Copa America because of hamstring injuries, hopes to remain on the field.

"I'm just trying to stay healthy, man," he said. "I know I have a lot to give if I'm healthy. But that's the key. For me, it's just trying to stay on the field, and I know if I do



that, I can help the team."

Altidore etched his name in the record book by becoming the United States' leader with 16 qualifying goals, two more than Clint Dempsey.

Pulisic made his first U.S. start after seven appearances as a substitute, and at 17 years, 353 days, became the young-

est American to start a qualifier. Landon Donovan had set the mark of 18 years, 184 days against Honduras in 2001—the last home qualifier the Americans lost.

Pulisic, who had two goals and an assist against St. Vincent and the Grenadines last week, showed pace and an ability to take on defenders down the left flank. He assisted on Altidore's second goal.

Pulisic also had a memorable miss when his sliding shot in the first half hit the left post, ricocheted across the face of the goal and bounced off the right post.

"I don't think I've ever seen anything like that," he said. "After that, I didn't think I was going to score because there's no way after something like that. Disappointing."

Coaches and teammates raved about the teenager's poise.

"It's crazy," Altidore said.

"Seventeen years old and he has a calmness when he gets the ball. He can glide by people almost effortlessly. The challenge for him is to stay hungry and keep improving

and for you guys to leave him alone. He doesn't need to be reading about himself too much right now. He just needs to keep his head and keep working."

Added Klinsmann: "I don't want to give him too many compliments. Got to keep him down on the ground."

Trinidad (3-2-1) already had clinched a final-round berth and finished two points back, one ahead of Guatemala (3-2-1), which was eliminated despite a 9-3 rout of St. Vincent that included five goals by Carlos Ruiz.

Kljestan put the U.S. ahead in the 44th minute, and Altidore doubled the

lead off Fabian Johnson's cross in the 59th. Altidore got his 37th international

TEAM

From Page 28

were given a free win as Team Pink failed to field players in the division. Team Pink then had Cheng Saturno and Yuko battling Team Blue's Roxy Lazaro and Helly Montes in the women's BC doubles and winning after only two games, 21-11, 21-11, to cap last Sunday's pairing.

Earlier last Saturday, Team Blue drew first blood with Edralin outclassing Macario in the men's A singles, 21-19, 21-18. Team Pink settled the score quickly when Saturno

JEWELL

From Page 28

are to soak up everything the coaches and upperclassmen are telling me and try and learn as much as possible from them. I also hope to contribute as much as I can to the team and hope we have success," he added.

The Buccaneers lost their season debut to Wisconsin Lutheran College, 1-2, but bounced back quickly after a 2-1 victory over Bethany Lutheran College last Sept. 4 with Jewell scoring one of Beloit's goals.

"Obviously, scoring a goal is awesome. To be fair, it was a great service on the corner from my teammate (Emmett Hendrickson) and all I had to do was head it in. More than anything I'm just glad we won the game and it was a well played match

United States' Bobby Wood (7) gets between Trinidad & Tobago's Levi Garcia (16) and Mekeil Williams (17) as he goes for the ball during the first half of a CONCACAF World Cup qualifying soccer match, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016, in Jacksonville, Fla.

goal three minutes later, and with the chance for a hat trick chipped over the crossbar after Pulisic helped him break in as injury time started.

"We were flowing," Altidore said. "It was good. Guys were moving and creating space and being crafty. When we're like that, we're on our game and we're at our most dangerous."

Kljestan scored with a toe shot from 10 yards out. After a throw in, Johnson played the ball to Kljestan, who flicked it back to the left back. He passed to Pulisic, whose cross was knocked out by Khaleem Hyland to teammate Radanfah Abu Bakr. His clearance hit Kljestan's midsection, and Kljestan scored for the second straight game since his return to the national team, his sixth goal in 48 international appearances.

won the second game after sweeping Jaja Bocago in the women's B singles, 21-12, 21-17. Team Pink then grabbed the lead when Jen Savellano and Macario outclassed Edralin and Lani Bartolome in the mixed A doubles, 21-13, 21-17.

Savellano played back-to-back games as she saw action in the mixed AB doubles, partnering with Espana and winning over Bartolome and Jun Kim, 21-14, 21-18. Kim also had two straight games last Saturday, pairing with Anna Omori in beating Banadera and Cristy Villaflor, 21-12, 21-17

from everyone," the Buccaneers freshman added.

While not busy in games and practices, the 6'1" Jewell is spending time taking courses in Chinese, economics, and sociology.

"I plan on majoring in business economics," said Jewell, who would love to see more CNMI student-athletes playing in collegiate level.

"I would encourage all of them to just keep playing. When you get to the high school age, it is important to make a highlight tape that you will be able to send to coaches. Coaches, more often than not, will not reach out to you so you must make contact with them. Also when choosing a school, make sure it is for academics first because playing soccer is not going to get you as far as your education will," the Blue Ayuyu said.

SBL masters league starts next month

The Saipan Baseball League has announced the return of the Masters Baseball League which will kick off in the latter part of October at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The MBL is open for players in the 40 and above age group and will have its own special rules. Games will be played in seven innings and pitchers are limited to four innings. Each team is allowed to have

a maximum of 15 players on its roster. Metal or wood bats may be used during the league and teams are asked to start purchasing their equipment.

An organizational meeting will be held on Oct. 12 at 5:30 pm at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. For more information, contact league director Tony Rogolifoi at tonyrogolifoi@yahoo.com, or league treasurer Bern Cabrera. (PR)



CNMI

From Page 28

perienced. The boys learned a lot from this game," coach Jer-shwin Angeles said in a message sent to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

After playing back-to-back matches, Angeles and his wards will take a break today—a much needed one as some members of the Teen Ayuyus sustained injuries after their game against the Japanese. John Michael Rojas suffered a sprain ankle, while Kirt Andon and Joshua Waldo had groin injury and bruised foot, respectively.

"It's a good thing we have a rest day tomorrow (today). Probably, JM and Kirt might not be able to play against South Korea on Friday to rest and be ready for the CNMI's next important match against Mongolia on Saturday," Angeles said

Rojas scored the Commonwealth's first goal in the festival to give the CNMI a 1-0 lead versus Guam, which eventually tied the match at the break after lighting up the board anew two minutes before the halftime buzzer sounded. In the second half, Guam scored early, but the CNMI fought back to force the standoff, thanks to Mark Esa-

lan's goal in the 42nd minute.

"The ball was kicked by Kirt over the defense line and Esalan was in 1v1 situation with the Guam goalie. The goalkeeper was able to tackle the ball, but Esalan continued to push it forward so he was all alone when he scored the goal," Angeles recalled when asked about the equalizer.

Referee refresher course today

Meanwhile, Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will be hosting a referee refresher course tonight in time for the opening of the 2016

NMIFA Youth Fall League this Saturday.

The refresher will be held at the TSL Sports Complex and will be divided into two parts. The 6pm to 7:30pm session will cover updates on the laws of the game and NMIFA's rules for the season, while the 7:30pm to 9pm slot will be for the practical session.

Officials of the NMIFA member groups are encouraged to confirm the participation of their representatives before the refresher course starts. Participants are also requested to come in proper attire (wear futsal or rubber shoes).

2nd Annual Plumeria Swim

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Tsunami Saipan's Juhn Tenorio smiles as he nears the finish line of last Saturday's 2nd Annual Plumeria Swim held in the waters off Kilili Beach.



Tsunami Saipan's Aika Watanabe is about to cut the tape for a first place finish in the women's flipper division.



Tsunami Saipan's Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero runs to the finish line.



Angel Marie Tan slows down as she approaches the finish line.



Japanese swimmers take their time in the waters off Kilili Beach before completing the flipper race.



Two Tsunami Saipan swimmers struggle to get out of the water.



Participants in the 500m and 1,500m freestyle races head out to the course.



Two Tsunami Saipan swimmers get out of the water to head to the shore.



Free semis pass
for Djokovic as
Tsonga pulls
out

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Red Sox roll
past Padres,
gain share of
AL East lead

PAGE 25



28 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Jewell starts collegiate career

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A few months after donning the colors of the CNMI, Blue Ayuy-us' Hunter Jewell found himself wearing another uniform last week as he began his collegiate career.

Jewell, who suited up for the CNMI Men's National Team that played in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2017 Round 1 in Guam in June, was in college blue and Vegas gold as he debuted with Beloit College last September 1 against the Wisconsin Lutheran College.

Beloit competes in NCAA Division 3 under the Midwest Conference. The Buccaneers are in the North Division of the 11-team conference, which is made up of schools in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois.

"I was recruited out of high school and I play as a defensive mid or as an attacking mid," Hunter said in a message sent to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

"I always had a dream of playing college soccer. Everyone on island, from the coaches I had to other players, is

very supportive of this dream and I appreciate all they have done for me. I'm just so grateful to have this opportunity and be in this situation," the former Paire Football Club player and CNMI youth national team members said.

Jewell's new team is mentored by five-time Midwest Conference Coach of the Year Tim Schmichen, who is also the winningest coach in the group and used to be the assistant at University of Massachusetts in NCAA Division 1.

"The coaches (including assistant Duncan Gillis) are intelligent and know a lot about the game and I feel I can learn a lot from them. My teammates are also very welcoming," the Lawrence High School (Kansas) graduate said.

"My goals as a freshman

See JEWELL on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hunter Jewell, seen here doing warm-up drills before the CNMI's game against Macau in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2017 Round 1 in Guam in June, is now playing for Beloit College in NCAA Division 3.

CNMI bows to Japan in AFC festival

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Heavily favored Japan de-

livered as expected, handing the CNMI a 17-0 beating yesterday in the AFC U14



Regional (East) Festival of Football 2016 at the Xianghe National Football Training Center in

Beijing, China.

The CNMI U14 Boys National Team, which came from a 2-2 draw against Guam during the event's opening day, held Japan to single digit in scoring in the first half before the latter broke the game wide open in the second for the lopsided victory.

"Our players gave their best, Japan is just really quick, accurate, and more ex-

See CNMI on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI U14 Boys National Team players huddle before challenging Japan in the AFC U14 Regional (East) Festival of Football 2016 yesterday at the Xianghe National Football Training Center in Beijing, China.

Team Pink rounds out Top 3 in Sun Palace tournament

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Team Pink made it to the podium of the 2016 Sun Palace Badminton Team Tournament after beating Team Blue, 20-10, in the battle for third place over the weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

Team Pink won games in streaks last Saturday and Sunday to join Team White and Team Red in the Top 3. After losing in the men's A singles on Day 1 of the consolation pairing, Team White swept the next three matches (women's B singles and mixed A and AB doubles), while Team Blue took the last tiff (mixed B doubles). On Day 2, Team Pink prevailed in the first three games (mixed C doubles and men's A and B doubles) before earning a victory in the final

pairing (women's BC doubles) last Sunday. Team Blue got its lone win on Day 2 in the men's C doubles.

The second and last day of the Team Pink-Blue pairing began with Merlie Savellano and Jun Banadera recovering from a forfeiture in the first set (0-21) by winning the

last two games against Marlene Peraja and Allan Lee in the

mixed C doubles), 21-18, 21-14. Team Pink then made it two in a row when Daniel Macario and Rodwealth Espana swept Jun Kim and Deether Edralin in the men's A doubles, 21-18, 24-22. Espana also played in the men's B doubles with Jojo Savelano and they downed Lee and Taeho Park, 21-18, 21-10.

In the men's C doubles, Team Blue's Park and Lee

See TEAM on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Team Pink's Rodwealth Espana serves to Team White during an earlier game in the Sun Palace tournament at the TSL Sports Complex.